PASSING EVENTS

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

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THE QUEEN AND THE EMPRESS.

I.

The Heir of great ambitions sleeps full well:
Past his high triumphs, past his sad regrets;
And there is little of his fame to tell
Save sweet strewed violets.

II.

The lovely lady, who beside his throne
Stood at all seasons, by no fear defiled,
Weeps now on England's friendly shore—alone,
But for her noble child.

III.

In him there centre endless hopes and fears,
And unimaginable dreams of power;
These are the visions of the coming years;
This is the sorrowing hour.

IV.

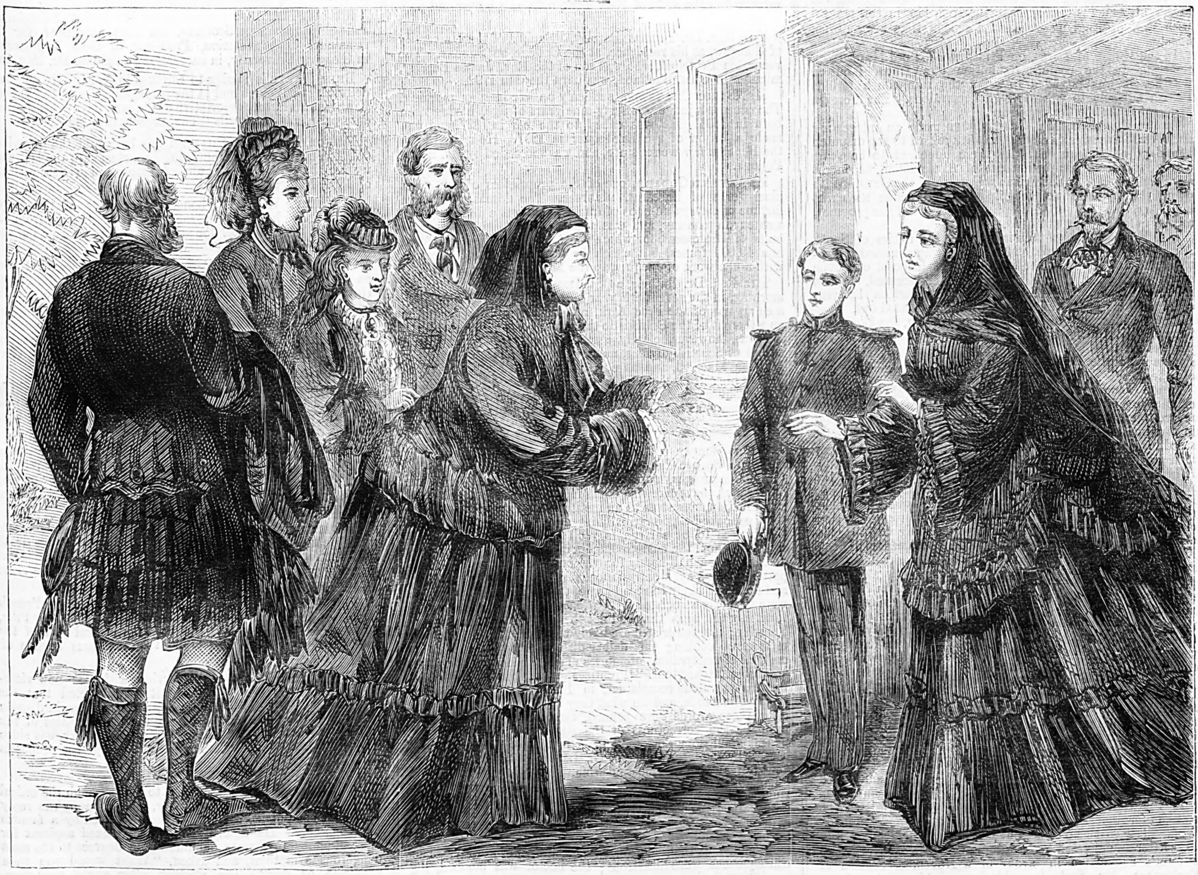
Who comes to cheer the Exiles?—England's Queen.
She also has known sorrow, having known
Albert, whose dauntless heart and soul serene
Brought love to cheer her throne.

V.

Like, yet unlike, their destinies: both have breathed
The difficult air which Royalty ever must;
And to both Royal ladies were bequeathed
A glory and a trust.

VI.

Lady of England, on an Emperor's tomb
'Twas well to strew the imperial violet.
Lady of France, thy chill and wintry gloom
May change to summer yet.



HER MAJESTY'S VISIT OF CONDOLENCE TO THE EX-EMPRESS EUGENIE.

IN PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Peers, on Thursday week, Lord Rosebery moved for the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the condition of the country with respect to the actual and prospective supply of horses. After a brief debate the noble lord withdrew his resolution, accepting a suggestion thrown out by Earl Granville that he should rather apply for a committee.

The crowded and earnest appearance of the House of Commons at question time indicated the expectation of the occurrence of something more exciting than anything promised by the notices on the paper. The explanation of the phenomenon was forthcoming when Mr. Eustace Smith rose, and, claiming the attention of the House for a matter which closely affected its own honour, asked that, as a preliminary to his statement, the Clerk at the Table would read certain extracts from a book entitled "Our Seamen: An Appeal," which bore upon its title-page the name, as author, of the junior member for Derby, Mr. Plimsoll. The Clerk thereupon, amid frequent invitations to "speak up," read a long passage from the book, in which pointed reference was made to three members of Parliament who had made large fortunes by the overloading of ships, in reckless disregard of the lives of the seamen on board of them. Mr. Smith, resuming his speech upon the conclusion of the reading of the extracts, said that the passages recited formed a very serious imputation upon the honour of a considerable number of gentlemen, members of the House. Three hon. members were distinctly referred to, and two had taken steps to justify themselves in the course of law. The action of the legal tribunals was, however, occasionally very tedious, and he thought it due, not only to the hon. members implicated, but to Parliament itself, that he should bring the subject directly under the notice of the House, and ask it to express an opinion upon it. With that view, he moved a resolution to the effect that to accuse, "in a printed book," members of the House of Commons of grievous offences, and to threaten them with further exposure if they took part in its debates, is conduct highly reprehensible and injurious to the honour and dignity of the House. Mr. Plimsoll immediately rose, and stated that if he had, by the publication of the book, unintentionally offended the dignity of the House, he offered "the most ample apology in his power to make." The House immediately accepted the *amende*, and by cries of "Withdraw, withdraw," urged Mr. Smith to put an end to the scene. Mr. Horsman repeated this advice in set terms; and Mr. Smith, amid approving cheers, expressed himself satisfied with Mr. Plimsoll's apology, and withdrew his resolution. Mr. Gladstone rose, but, finding Mr. Gourley on his feet, resumed his seat, and the hon. member for Sunderland, in a voice almost inaudible, began to address the House on the question, as he understood it to apply personally to himself. When this intention became clear, the House so unmistakably intimated its desire that the matter should stop where Mr. Plimsoll's apology had left it, that Mr. Gourley abruptly sat down, and the Premier, in a few well-chosen words, brought the affair to a conclusion.

Mr. Bruce then moved and carried the second reading of the Prevention of Crime Bill, and the third reading of the Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister Bill was carried by 98 votes against 54. The Union Rating (Ireland) Bill, the object of which is to assimilate the Irish law in this respect with that of England was read a second time after a brisk debate.

In the House of Lords, on Friday week, Lord Houghton, referring to the coming Exhibition at Vienna, inquired whether it was intended to relax the rule which forbids British subjects to wear foreign decorations. The Foreign Minister replied in the negative.

In the Commons, Mr. Grant-Duff made an interesting statement in answer to a question with regard to the disputed boundary of Afghanistan. As there appeared to be some doubt respecting the boundaries of Afghanistan, he might state that no part of Badakshan was north of the Oxus. With regard to Wakhan, no geographer could define its exact boundary, since only one European had explored the province, and he unfortunately was dead.

Mr. R. N. Fowler then introduced the affairs of South Africa, and was followed by Mr. Holms, who obtained a committee of inquiry into the purchase and disposal of public stores; lastly, Mr. Mundella proposed and secured, after an interesting debate, a select committee to report on the great coal question; after which the House was counted out.

In the House of Lords on Monday evening, the Colonial Secretary, in reply to Lord Longford, stated that only 4,700 persons had applied to the Church Temporalities Commissioners under the Land Act, to purchase rent-charges in lieu of tithes.

In the Commons, the principal business was Mr. Cardwell's exposition of the Army Estimates. It was favourable with regard to each branch of our military forces, a slight falling-off in the numbers of the Volunteers being more than compensated for by the increased efficiency. The whole number of men provided for was 462,700, including of the regular Army 128,968, against 133,649 last year. The total charge for the Army was £14,416,000—a net decrease of £408,100. Recent legislation was favourably reviewed, and it was shown that the short-service reserve was being gradually formed, the men of the first and second classes now numbering 62,719; the abolition of purchase was acting well; the instruction of Militia and Yeomanry officers was proceeding satisfactorily; and the system of local centres, to come into operation next month, would soon provide the basis of the system for welding together all the services—regular and auxiliary. In further legislation for the Army, the Government proposed to abolish the obnoxious 40th clause of the Mutiny Act, so that in future soldiers, like other men, will be legally as well as morally responsible for the support of their wives and children.

In the House of Lords on Tuesday, notice was given by Lord Houghton of the second reading of the Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister Bill for the 13th of March. The message of the Commons, asking their Lordships to co-operate by means of a joint committee on all Railway Amalgamation Bills, was brought forward by Lord Ripon, and the arrangement was agreed to.

In the Commons, the Marquis of Hartington announced that no further prosecutions would be instituted in connection with the Galway election. Mr. Peter Taylor resisted the motion for deferring the meeting of the House on Ash Wednesday, to two o'clock, but was defeated by 222 votes to 56. After an animated but fruitless discussion of Mr. Charles Forster's suggestion in favour of a November Session of Parliament, Mr. Seely brought forward his motion for a reform of the Naval Administration, the hon, member recommending the substitution of a Secretary of State for the Board of Admiralty. There was an interesting discussion closed by an exhaustive speech of Mr. Goschen, and the motion was rejected by a majority of 114 to 13.

POLITICAL.

The report that Mr. Tillett, the late Liberal member for Norwich, intends to contest Leicester, in conjunction with Mr. P. A. Taylor, at the next election is denied.

The Wigtonshire election has resulted in the return of Mr. Agnew, the Conservative candidate, by a majority of 57 votes—1,369 electors polled.

The Duke of St. Albans has announced that he will "be glad to accept the honour of being the first president of the proposed Liberal club for Nottingham and county."

Mr. Daniel Thwaites, an extensive brewer at Blackburn, has intimated his intention of offering himself as a candidate for the representation of that town at the next election. His politics are not known.

Mr. Plimsoll's book has caused much commotion at the large shipbuilding and ship-owning port of Sunderland; and the Shipowners' Society there, after discussing the subject at special meeting, resolved to send a memorial to Government, praying for an immediate inquiry into the truth of the hon. gentleman's statements by a Royal Commission. The Town Council has adopted a similar memorial.

Sir Henry Rawlinson entered into a detailed exposition of the Afghan boundary question before the Geographical Society on Monday night. In his opinion, however, the political importance of this subject has been greatly over-estimated, since the country in question is one in which extensive military operations are almost impossible; and, if British power in the East is to be attacked by Russia, the approach towards India must lie through Persia, and not by way of this disputed frontier.

The Lord Chancellor's Bill on the constitution of a supreme court, and for other purposes relating to the administration of justice in England, has been issued. It is divided into seven parts, and contains a schedule of rules on procedure. The measure is not to come into operation until the 1st November, 1874. It is proposed to make two divisions, "The High Court of Justice," and "The Court of Appeal." The Lord Chief Justice of England is to be the president of the High Court of Justice, and the Lord Chancellor of the Court of Appeal. There is to be "union" with law and equity, and law terms are to be abolished and vacations appointed, with trials in vacation. There are numerous provisions as to procedure, and "official referees," where jurors are not to try, are to hear cases. As many as 59 rules as to practice are set forth in the schedule. Legal practitioners are to be called "solicitors."

PASSED AWAY.

The Persian Minister of Justice, from a fall from his carriage.

Mr. Cassidy, editor of the *Albany Argus*. He was highly esteemed in the state of New York both as a writer and politician.

The Rev. Dr. Thomas Barclay, Principal of the University of Glasgow, at his residence, at the College, on Sunday. The venerable Principal, who was son of the Rev. James Barclay, minister of Unst, Shetland, was born there in 1792.

Mr. Baron Channell, suddenly on Wednesday morning. The deceased judge was sixty-nine years of age, having been born in 1804. He was called to the bar in 1827, and was made a Baron of the Exchequer in 1857. He retired from the Bench a few weeks since, and was succeeded by Mr. Baron Pollock.

M. Armand Godard, one of the proprietors of the great glass-works of Baccarat, Meurthe. The deceased leaves a fortune of sixteen millions of francs. He was a distinguished amateur in painting, and was the owner of the two famous bulls of Brascassat, for which an American recently offered him 40,000 francs, but which he has bequeathed, together with a fine work of Jacques, to the Museum of the Louvre.

The Rev. Dr. Guthrie, at St. Leonards-on-Sea, on Monday morning, in the seventieth year of his age. Dr. Guthrie was a clergyman of the Free Kirk, and was generally regarded as an adherent of the Calvinistic theology professed by that body. He was, however, closely associated with the more liberal school of Scottish divines, more particularly with the late Dr. Norman Macleod, and as editor of the *Sunday Magazine* he availed himself largely of the help both of English and Scotch Broad Churchmen. He was known, more particularly in his earlier years, as a warm-hearted and active practical philanthropist.

We no longer encourage the cruel sport of throwing at cocks on Shrove Tuesday, as our forefathers did, and other Shrovetide usages, more honoured in the breach than in the observance, have likewise fallen into oblivion; but pancakes still remain amongst us as an institution. In some few places the "pancake-bell," originally intended to call penitents into the church to be shriven, is yet to be heard; and in Westminster School the custom lingers of tossing the pancake to decide upon a half-holidy for the boys. Few, hewever, who partake of this apparently innocent compound of eggs, milk, and flour, are likely to recall any of the curious customs which were formerly associated with it, such as going pancaking, or thrashing the hens that had not begun to lay before Shrove Tuesday; and fewer still are likely to remember that the very method of cooking this dainty dish has been considered an emblem of martyrdom. Memories of disturbances of the peace are also attatched to it. "'Prentices, upon a Shrove Tuesday," wrote a querulous complainer, in 1606, "take the lawe into their owne hands, and do what they list;" and, eighty years after these words were penned, the 'prentices of York gave proof of the correctness of the statement. The notorious pancake-bell riots that took place in that city in 1689 were caused by the interference of Dr. Lake (afterwards Bishop of Chichester) with the custom which had prevailed from time immemorial of the apprentices, journeymen, and menservants ringing the pancake-bell in the Minster. Crowds used to gather on the occasion; the doctor was scandalized, and, expecting the passive obedience of which he was so zealous an advocate, in spite of warning from the other clergy, who were more judicious than himself, he issued his prohibition. The consequences were disastrous; the doctor was mobbed, his house attacked, and the the millitary had to come to the rescue.

PERSONAL.

Count Bernstorff is still seriously ill.

Mr. John Bright entered the House of Commons for the first time this session on Monday afternoon.

The Queen came to London on Monday, on a visit to the Duchess of Inverness at Kensington Palace.

Mr. Corry, First Lord of the Admiralty in the last Conservative Cabinet, is extremely ill at Bournemouth.

George Eliot has written to say that she does not intend going to America as announced.

Mr. Tennyson has declined an invitation to visit the United States.

Viscount Ossington still remains in a precarious state of health, but his medical advisers are hopeful.

Mr. E. J. Reed, the late Chief Constructor of the Navy, has returned to England.

Mr. Clayton, the plaintiff in the recent action for slander, is no longer a member of the Guards Club.

Professor Max Muller has declined the offers made him by the University of Strasburg, and will retain his chair at Oxford.

Mr. Phillip W. Levenstone has obtained the scholarship for this year in the violin department of the Royal Irish Academy of Music.

Lord Listowel was on Thursday week invested as a Knight of the Order of St. Patrick, in the throne-room in Dublin Castle.

Anna Dickenson's last lecture is entitled "Things Hoped For." A critic explains that she dosen't mean husbands. *They* are a thing she has long ceased to hope for.

M. Thiers has officially informed Count Apponyi that, much to his regret, he will be prevented from visiting the Vienna Exhibition.

Baron Anselm Rothschild, the chief of the Vienna branch of the cosmopolitan banking house, is seriously, but not dangerously, ill.

The Prince of Arcot, better known as Prince Azim Jah, of Madras, is said by a Madras paper to be in a bad state of health.

The Rev. Edward King has accepted the Regius Professorship of Theology at Oxford, rendered vacant by the death of Dr. Ogilvie.

Prince Arthur has left Rome, where he has been staying during the Carnival, for Naples. Before leaving he had an audience of King Victor Emmanuel.

Sir Bartle Frere has left Zanzibar, and gone on a special mission to Mozambique in connection with the suppression of the East African Slave Trade.

The Comte de Chambord has declared that he could only receive the Comte de Paris upon condition that such visit should be without restriction or preliminary consideration.

Mr. W. Millar, secretary to the Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders in Scotland, has been appointed, for the remainder of the session, Professor of Civil Engineering in Glasgow University, in succession to the late Dr. Rankine.

Bret Harte is coming to England in April. He purposes delivering in London and in the principal cities of the United Kingdom his lecture descriptive of the early days of Californian enterprise, which he calls "The Argonauts of '49."

Prince Frederic Charles has bestowed the pecuniary dotation conferred upon him at the conclusion of the last war, upon regiments that served under his command in the campaigns of 1864, 1866, and 1870.

The Rev. W. Yate, honorary secretary of the Dover Sailors' home, has been presented with a testimonial from the owners of the *Northfleet* for his attention to the wants of the suvivors.

Count Beust has left Paris for London, where he arrived on Saturday. It is stated that he has handed to the French Government a copy of his despatch of the 20th of July, 1870, which the Duc de Gramont had refused to restore.

Mr. Fortescue has appointed Mr. Richard Valpy, to succeed the late Mr. Albany Fonblanque as chief of the Statistical Department of the Board of Trade and Controller of Corn Returns.

Dr. Hooker, director of the Royal Gardens, Kew, will be appointed President of the Royal Society in succession to Sir George Airy, who has annouuced his intention of retiring from the chair in November next.

The Tichborne Claimant has announced his intention of holding a meeting at Hanley, in order to give an account of his past life. He says he will not allude to the past or coming trials, wishing to respect the authority of the law, which has sealed his lips on these subjects.

Captain H. Baynes, who controlled the police arangements at Chislehurst from the day of the Emperor Napoleon's death until the funeral of his Majesty, has received a very handsome breast-pin, the gift of the Empress Eugénie and the Prince Imperial.

M. Henri de la Pommeraye, the well-known French theatrical critic and lecturer, was married to Mdlle Pille, at the Madeleine, Paris, last week. The central nave of the the church could scarcely contain the numerous friends of two families.

Father O'Keefe had an interview with the new vicar-general of Ossory last week, and it was expected that the result would have been a settlement of the matters in dispute between the parish priest of Callan and the authorities of the Roman Catholic Church. Father O'Keefe, however, has since announced that he had not been able to accept the proposals made to him.

Medical students who are about to pass through the ordeal of examination may advantageously, perhaps, copy the reply of a French student, who was being examined by a famous physician here. He described to the perplexed aspirant for medical honours a disease culminating by degrees to the most dangerous symptoms, and asked, "What would you then prescribe or do?" The student, after slight hesitation, replied, "I should send instantly for you." He got his diploma, of course.

AT HOME.

The Hospital Sunday in London is fixed for July 15th.

It has been decided that the International Exhibition at South Kensington this year shall be opened on Easter Monday.

The keel of another unarmoured iron composite vessel has just been laid down at Chatham Dockyard. It is to be named the *Flying Fish.*

Experiments are now making in Edinburgh to train educated young women as compositors! Three firms have entered on the task.

The screw steamer *Otter,* of and from Newcastle-on-Tyne, for Antwerp, with passengers and general cargo, was sunk by collision with the steamer *J. H. Lorentzen in the Wold* last week. The crew were saved.

To the parish and island of Shapinshay, in Orkney, belongs the honour of electing the first School Board under the Scotch Education Act. The proprietor of the island, the proprietor's factor, and the three ministers have been returned members of the Board without opposition.

Gas-making must pay well. In many parts of the metropolis coal merchants apply themselves to the manufacture of coke in large quantities, and lose the whole of the products which the gas companies are really established to produce; yet the price of the coke is in each instance the same.

The grand jury of Limerick have been informed by their county surveyor that it is no longer possible to get men to break stones for macadamizing the roads, owing to the general improvement in the condition and pay of labourers; and he recommended the employment of machinery to do the work.

A Curious accident occurred last week in a sale-room at Dore, a few miles from Sheffield. While the auctioneer was in the act of saying "Going, going, gone," the floor gave way, and about thirty people were precipitated into the kitchen. Nine of the thirty were injured, and removed to their homes in carts.

Meetings were held in many pit districts on Saturday afternoon lastin favour of manhood suffrage, and sympathy was cordially expressed with the movement. The preparations for the great meeting to be held on the Newcastle Town Moor are progressing rapidly, and an enormous gathering is anticipated.

A Conference of Delegates from Home Rule Societies in Great Britain met in Birmingham yesterday, with the object of forming a Confederation of these societies, and formally adopting the principles of the Irish Home Rule organization. Three meetings were held, at which Mr. Butt, Mr. Sullivan, and Father Sherlock presided.

An explosion of gas occurred on Thursday week, at the Ivy House colliery, near Henley, "A doggy," in defiance of a prohibition, went into a drift where there was gas with a naked light. An explosion immediately followed. Four men and two boys were seriously injured, and the man who caused the accident is not expected to recover

A respectable farmer named Patrick Callighan has been murdered at a place called Killbeagle, near Nenagh. He was met on the public highway by three ruffians, who attacked him in a brutal and cowardly manner, inflicting wounds which have just terminated in death. Fortunately, he recognized the men, and one of them is in custody.

A murder was committed in the Ballinasloe Lunatic Asylum on Monday by one of the patients. About three o'clock in the morning two of the attendants heard a noise in a division where six patients were sleeping. The attendants ran in and found that one of the lunatics had strangled one of his fellow patients, and was in the act of strangling another.

On Friday, the 21st ult., a horse in a carriage, standing at the corner of Jermyn-street, took fright, and run up Piccadilly. On reaching the Royal Academy, where the passage is narrow and boarded over, the horse dragged the carriage through, and in doing so knocked over several persons, who were leaving or entering the building. Three ladies were seriously injured by the vehicle passing over them.

"A Constant Traveller" calls attention in the *Times* to a case of "economy of fuel" which the most zealous economist must deprecate. He asserts that the directors of the Great Western Railway have stopped all fires in the waiting and other rooms of all but the most important of their stations, and that for the last three weeks no fires have been allowed to the signalmen in their boxes.

A collision occurred at nine o'clock on Friday, the 21st ult., on the London and North-Western Railway, between Warrington and Manchester. A Stockport local passenger train was leaving the siding at Broadheath Station when it came into collision with a goods train from Warrington. Both engines were smashed, and there was a large destruction of railway plant. The passengers were shaken, and one was seriously hurt.

There is an awkward educational difficulty at Wigan. By the Mines Regulation Act, boys of over twelve years of age may be employed in mines; whereas, by the Education Act, until they have passed a certain standard they must attend a day school. The other day the Wigan school board summoned several colliers for not sending their boys to school, when the Mines Act was urged in defence. The magistrates, however, inflicted fines in all the cases.

At the fortnightly meeting of the South Yorkshire Miners' Association, held at Barnsley, there was an attendance of delegates representing over 20,000 miners employed in the collieries of South Yorkshire and North Derbyshire. The propriety of demanding another advance of wages was discussed, and resulted in an unanimous resolution to ask for an increase of 20 per cent. upon the present rate of wages, payable on the 8th of March.

On Monday the snow fell almost continuously all over the country. In the metropolis it was nearly incessant, and it caused great inconvenience by reason of the difficulty under which the traffic was carried on. The roadways were fearfully encumbered with the snow that had fallen, and the strain upon the horses passing over it was tremendous. No effort was made to remove it, and for the rest of the week the streets have been in the most disgraceful state.

The University Boat-race has been fixed to take place on Saturday, March 29th, when the tide will admit of its being rowed at about three o'clock in the afternoon. It is understood the Oxford president will not row this year. His crew commenced strict training on Friday week. The Cambridge crew went into active training on the Thursday, taking their first constitutional, after which they breakfasted together, and will take all their meals in common till the day of the race.

Under the Manx Adulteration Act, which is not so easily evaded as the English law, several Douglas grocers have just been fined for selling green tea which had been faced with colouring matter, weighted with sand, and had undergone other ingenious processes. The chief magistrate of Douglas saw no difficulty in deciding that there was adulteration in these cases, despite the plea that the defendants sold the tea as they received it, and that all green teas were more or less coloured.

After three days' debate, the Licensing Act passed the Jersey States by 25 to 10 votes, and was ordered to be transmitted to her Majesty for confirmation. This Act, which comes into operation next January, abolishes all beerhouse and cider-shop licences, and fixes the power of closing public-houses at ten o'clock; opening on Sundays being restricted to the hours of one to three. Heavy penalties are levied for adulteration of beer and spirits, and for drunkenness in streets or public places.

The hope of settlement in South Wales, and a resumption of work by the starving miners, has been bitterly disappointed. On Monday, at Dowlais, the men brought up a new proposition, involving about a fortnight's work at the reduction of ten per cent., another fortnight at the old rate, and then an advance of ten per cent., to be legally ratified between the parties. These terms were peremptorily and decisively rejected; and the result is that the struggle is regarded in the district as more desperate and hopeless than ever.

According to the new law the French army is to have 36 artillery regiments, and, owing to the activity displayed by the Minister of War, 32 of them are already organized, and the remainder will be completed in a few months. The camp at Balan, near Lyons, which was decreed in 1872, is fast approaching completion. Twenty thousand men will take possession of it in May or June, whilst the camp at Avor, near Bourges, only contains from six to seven thousand men.

On the 21st ist. the driver of the Uxbridge mail cart, named Weatherley, whose duty it was to see that the mail-bags were placed at West Drayton, on the Great Western Railway, so as to drop into the mail train as it passed, was rather late for the down train, and, in consequence, had to make his arrangements rather hurriedly. He had scarcely succeeded in hooking on his bag when the mail train came along at a rapid speed, and, knocking him off a ladder, hurled him some distance down the line. When picked up he was dead.

A shocking occurrence is reported from Jersey. On Monday afternoon, James Babe, a servant in the family of Captain Gibbs, quarrelled with the cook, a married woman, and threw a plate at her head, but missed her. He then left the kitchen, and returned in two or three minutes with a loaded gun, threatening to shoot her. As he was raising the gun, the cook's son rushed in and seized the barrel; and in the struggle which followed, the gun exploded, and the charge entered Babe's head over the right eye, inflicting a frightful wound. The man died a few hours afterwards.

Lord Houghton, President of the Newspaper Press Fund, took the chair at the annual general meeting of members on Saturday last, and, in moving the adoption of the report, said was clearly one which gave a fair representation of the society's present affairs, and must be satisfactory to all friends. He wished to see members of both Houses of Parliament in constant friendly intercourse with the press. Nothing could be more desirable, in a constitutional country, than that such communication should take place on a footing of perfect equality and justice.

The "Princites" or "Agapemonites," inmates of "the Abode of Love," near Bridgewater, continue to hold a series of meetings in the neighbourhood. On Sunday more than three hundred persons assembled at the "Agapemone," and were addressed by "Brother Prince" himself, who declared that the Son of Man had revealed himself there in judgment, and that He came not to condemn man, but to deliver him body and soul. But little pain and sickness, "Brother Prince" asserted, was experienced among his followers, and they never had a grain of medicine or engaged a physician.

The first courses and the first ties of the Waterloo Cup were run last Wednesday week at Altcar, near Liverpool, several of the favourite greyhounds being beaten. Last year's winner Bed of Stone was beaten in the first ties. There were an immense number of people present. The contest was continued on Thursday, and was brought to a close on Friday afternoon when Peasant Boy, beat Madeline, Muriel beat Magenta, after an undicided; and in the deciding course Muriel beat Peasant Boy, and won. The Plate fell to Royal Mary, and the Purse was divided by Contango and Joan.

Two children, named John Irvine and Catherine Wilson, lost their lives by falling through the ice on a mill dam, in the town of Dunfermline, and a girl named Elizabeth Stewart narrowly escaped the same fate. The children were standing on the wall of the dam, when the boy Irvine suggested that the girls should hold his hands while he went down upon the ice to test if it were strong enough to bear. Irvine fell through, bringing the girls down with him at a point where there is a sluice. The children were at once carried under the sluice by the force of the water to a depth of about six feet. The girl Steward was rescued, but the others were drowned.

At Leith, last week, a clown named Joseph Garrithy, who was lately engaged in a travelling show, was killed in a mysterious manner at the Citadel Railway Station. He had been spending the day with a friend in Leith, and went to the Citadel, with the intention of taking the half-past nine o'clock train for Edinburgh. Not having money, however, to pay his fare, he asked a small loan from his friend, who, not having anything in his purse, went to get the money, leaving Garrithy on the platform. On coming back he could not see Garrithy, and the train started without him. Shortly after this the body of the unfortunate man was found lying across the rails at the station nearly cut in two.

An inquiry was held at Coventry on Saturday evening last respecting the death of Theodor Oswald Dollfus, a native of Switzerland. Deceased had been carrying on the occupation of a dyer in Coventry for some months. As he did not get up at his usualtime on Thursday, his room door was broken open, when he was discovered quite dead. A knife of peculiar manufacture was found by his side, and it was stated in evidence that the deceased had said that he carried a poisoned knife, which would kill any one who was scratched by it. After hearing medical evidence, the jury returned a verdict to the effect that death had been caused by poison self-administered.

A sad death is reported from Liverpool. A young man, who had recently joined the police force, was found lying in the streets insensible, and his superior officers, taking it for granted the insensibility was caused by intoxication, placed him in a cell. The following day he was removed to the infirmary, and died two hours after admission. The deceased was the youngest son of an Irish gentleman, and joined the force "to see life," and entirely against the wish of his friends and relatives. On Saturday the case became the subject of investigation by the local coroner, who severely censured the mode of treatment adopted by the police. It is expected that the medical evidence at the adjourned inquiry will show that death was caused by violence.

Despite the severe frosty weather, about 8,000 to 10,000 people attend the meetings in the great market-place at Nottingham on Monday night to protest against the present price of coal. A procession, consisting chiefly of women carrying an empty fire-grate, and a banner bearing the words "Starvation," and "Beware, Coalowners, at the next election," marched through the streets to the market-place, headed by a brass band. The women and the leaders of trades' societies, including Mr. West, secretary of the Lace Trade Association, who presided, occupied the platform. Speeches were delivered, denouncing the inhumanity of coal-owners, and praying for a commission of inquiry, and a resolution to that effect was passed.

A largely-attended meeting of the ratepayers of Falmouth, convened by and presided over by the mayor, in response to a requisition, has been held at the Town-hall to remonstrate against the impending sale in London on the 26th inst., of the advowson, which has been extensively advertised to enhance its value. Resolutions were passed declaring that the buying and selling of the right to appoint a minister to any church is contrary to the spirit of Christianity and a foul blot on the national Church, and expressing the opinion of the meeting that every means should be adopted to relieve the ratepayers of Falmouth from payment of the rector's rates, on the ground of their being objectionable and opposed to the views both of Churchmen and Dissenters.

BEFORE THE CORONER.

Mr. Humphreys, on Saturday last, held an inquest at Bromley, touching the death of Robert Martin, 17, a labourer at the telegraph works of Messrs. Hooper, Millwall Docks. Last Wednesday week, it appeared, the deceased was pulling a coil through a flooring, when, in consequence of his frock getting caught in a shaft, he was drawn into the machinery and fearfully injured. He was taken to the Poplar Hospital, but died in a few minutes. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death," requesting the coroner to ask the firm by letter to enclose the shafts and adopt other measures for the safety of the men.

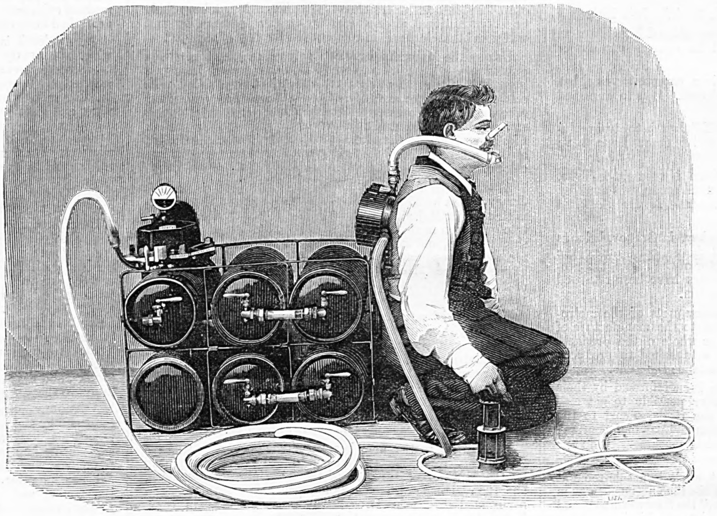
On the same day Mr. Humphreys held an inquest at the London Hospital respecting the death of Charles Callender, a boiler-maker. The deceased was employed with many others in constructing a tunnel for the East London Railway. On the Wednesday before a stage on which he was working gave way, precipitating him into the water. He was got out and taken to the hospital, where, however, he died. Several others fell with him, but did not sustain fatal injuries. The jury came to the conclusion that the stage had not been properly erected.

Dr. Lankester has adjourned an inquiry into the death of a waiter, named Pilcher, fifty-two years of age, as it involves a question regarding the treatment of the poor by workhouse officials. A witness said that on Sunday morning, at 11.30, he went with the deceased to the workhouse in Gray's-inn-road. The porter at the door said that they were full, and had no beds, telling witness to go to the relieving officer, giving the address. Witness went to find it, leaving the deceased outside in the street standing by the railings. Nothing was said by the porter about taking him inside. He afterwards took the man to a doctor, who sent witness with a note to the relieving officer, who gave an order. After sitting down on the stones every thirty yards the man arrived at the workhouse at half-past one o'clock, and was admitted. The following morning he was found dead.

The adjourned inquest on the body of Mr. Brand, who was drowned in the *Northfleet,* was held on Friday week at the Town-hall, Lydd, before the Bailiff, Mr. Thomas Finn, and the same jury. At the close of the evidence, the Coroner said the jury had no question to consider but one—the cause of death of Mr. Brand. It appeared to him that the thought of suspicion rested upon a certain vessel. They had no evidence to prove it was the steamer that ran down the *Northfleet,* and in this case he thought it was advisable to return an open verdict. The jury then retired, and after deliberating for about twenty minutes they returned the following verdict:—"That the said Samuel Frederick Brand came to his death by exhaustion in the water, by reason of the foundering of the *Northfleet,* in which he was a passenger, in the East bay of Dungeness, on the night of the 22nd day of January. That the said *Northfleet* was run down while at anchor by a steamer, whose name and nation are unknown, but that there must have been negligence or carelessness on the part of those in charge of the steamer. The jury add to their verdict that great praise is due to the master and crews of the pilot cutter *Princess,* and the lugger *Mary,* and the tug *City of London,* for their exertion in saving the lives they did. The jury also consider that if the steamer which caused the collision had stood by the sinking vessel instead of so unmercifully leaving her to her fate, most, if not all, of the lives would have been saved. They also consider that a distinct code of signals should be established."

In a letter respecting Lord Rosebery's committee to inquire into the alleged scarcity of horses, Admiral Rous refers to the system of running horses at races under assumed names. "Some of the most honourable members of the turf," he says, "prefer a pseudonym. Female relations may dislike racing; a young man with rich, crabbed uncles and aunts would be a fool to run in his own name. Sir M. Wood lost £90,000 because some vagabond exposed his name in a sporting paper as the purchaser of Lucetta for £3,000, and his miserable uncle cut him off with a shilling. Then the owners of the best horses are found fault with because they will not match. Most people prefer running for public money. These writers fancy that racehorses are kept for their especial private amusement."

COLLIERY EXPLOSIONS.



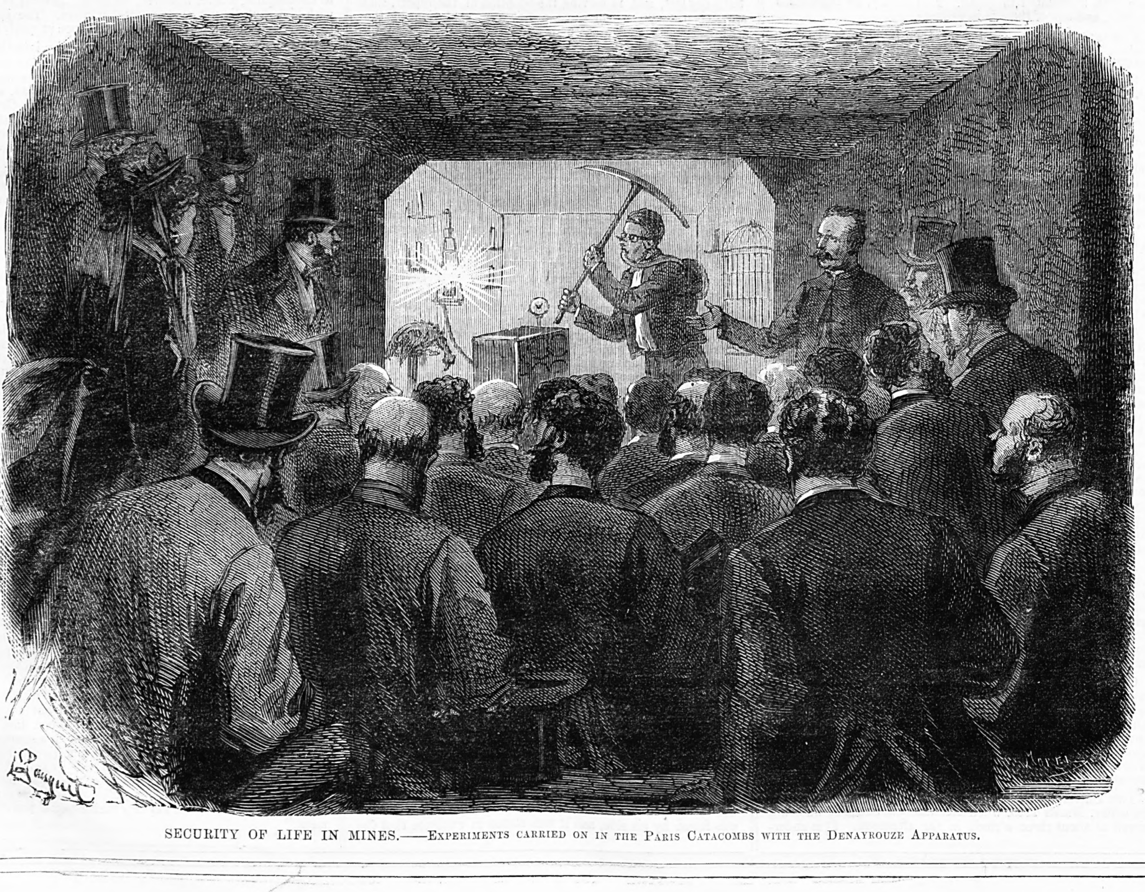
A MINER FITTED WITH THE DENAYROUZE SAFETY APPARATUS.

Amongst the most disastrous calamities with which this country is visited must be reckoned colliery explosions. With the single exception, perhaps, of shipwrecks, there is no species of accident occuring in these islands so fatal and so widespread in their results. We are, thanks to our geographical position, safe from those earthquakes that lay waste and desolate other climes, and that bury men, women, and children beneath the ruins of their toppling dwellings; yet not a year passes without some fearful tragedy being enacted beneath the earth's surface, but which a score or more of our fellow-creatures are cut off at a moment's notice, and this, despite all the boasted appliances of science and civilization, and the passing of a "Mines Regulation Bill."

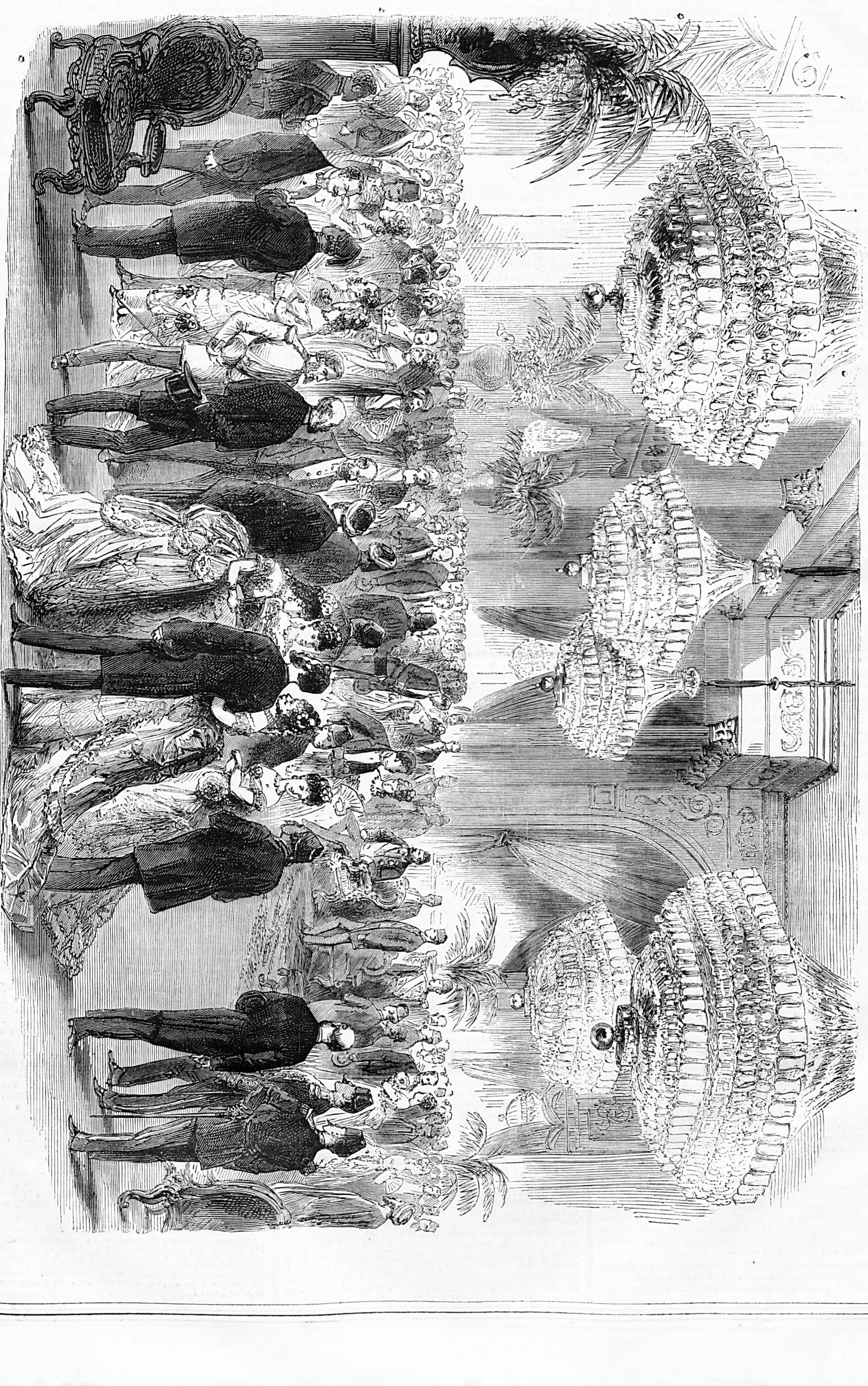
The last disaster of this kind was the one which took place at Talk-o'-the-Hill in Staffordshire, on Tuesday week, and which was briefly noticed in our last impression. Fortunately the loss of life proves to have been less severe than was at first stated. It is strange that there should be any uncertainty about this, but it appears that, although a strict account is kept of the men as they descend, it lies with them to report themselves at the office when they have finished their tasks; consequently the names of the thirty who are engaged in that seam—the eight-foot Banbury, as it is called—are booked; and it is to be presumed that they were all down during some portion of the morning. Six of these, however, had come up shortly after one o'clock, although this was not known until some time after the accident; and six who came late had been stopped from going down, so that the actual number engaged in the seam at half-past one on Tuesday afternoon is reduced to eighteen, all of whom have perished. It should be known that the Talke Mine, owned and worked by the North Staffordshire Coal Company, is composed of four separate seams, known as the ten-foot, the two-row, the 7-foot Banbury, and the 8-foot Banbury. The last of these is the lowest, the shaft being some 350 yards deep. This seam and the one immediately above it were being worked through the shaft known as Bucksand, although a system of internal shafts and sidings had provided a communication between all the four seams, and it would have been perfectly easy to escape by any of them. At a quarter to two, while the work was in full swing, the bank men at the mouth of the Bucksand shaft heard a sharp report down below, and this was followed by a powerful rush of air up the downcast shaft, which supplies the lowest seam with breathing air. As breathing air was being forced out of the pit, and carried along with it a cloud of coal-dust and rubbish, it was a pretty certain indication that something wrong had taken place down below, and the alarm was immediately given. Fortunately, Mr. Hunter, the manager, was in the office, and he immediately gave the necessary directions to procure medical assistance. Within ten minutes of the explosion Mr. Hunter and three volunteers went down the shaft in one of the baskets, but when they arrived at the upper Banbury seam they were driven back by the strong gas that filled the cuttings. When it was found that the danger existed already at this point, which was not the lowest, fears were entertained that the catastrophe would rival that of 1866 in extent and awfulness; but on going down a second time it was found hat the foul air and the poisonous gas had cleared away sufficiently to allow not only the seven-foot seam, but the eight-foot seam also, to be examined. A dozen volunteers having descended to the seven-foot seam, the work of clearing it was immediately commenced. The number of men engaged in it was about fifty, but out of those thirty had already been sent up only slightly affected by the damp. During the next half-hour the remaining twenty were brought up in various stages of debility. The intelligence from the lower seam was of a more melancholy kind. After having made their way for some distance, it was found the explosion had been of too destructive a character, and that the passage was blocked up with the debris. When an explosion of this kind occurs, a tremendous rush of gas carries with it everything that happens to be in the way. When the debris had been sufficiently cleared to allow of a passage, some of the bodies were found close by dreadfully injured, and, as had been expected quite dead. The first bodies were removed about four o'clock in the afternoon, and by five the next morning, thirteen had been sent up and taken to the Swan Tavern, where they were undressed, washed, and laid out to await the inquest. By Friday the corpses of the whole eighteen had been recovered. The cause of the accident is still a mystery, though the general impression is that it was caused by firing a shot.

It is with a view of affording speedy succour to the victims of such accidents that the Messrs. Denayrouze, of Paris, have invented the apparatus forming the subject of the accompanying engraving. The idea is to enable workmen to receive a supply of pure air in a somewhat similar manner to that in which the atmospheric fluid is furnished to a diver under water. This supply is either obtained by an air-pump worked from above or from a light waggon, laden with compressed air, and drawn by the operator himself. On the back of the workman is strapped an air-box, which is fed by a tube leading from the air reservoir, and which, by means of a system of valves, regulates the supply. From this box another tube, terminating in a flexible mouth-piece, leads to the workman's mouth, and through this he obtains his supply of air. The nose is fastened by a clip, exhalation being carried on through a valve fitted to the mouth-piece.

In exemplification of the utility of their invention, some very interesting experiments, forming the subject of our lower illustration, were carried on by Messrs. Denayrouze in the Paris Catacombs. A cell walled off by a sheet of glass, and containing a miner accoutred with the apparatus, was filled with artificially produced choke-damp. As the gas chased the respirable air, a rabbit and a fowl who had been shut up with him, expired, and a range of candles went out. But the miner continued his operations without apparently the least inconvenience; and the lamp he carried, which was fed by a similar system, continued to burn brilliantly. The importance of this invention, when an attempt is made to rescue miners, imperilled by the deadly "after-blast," cannot be over-estimated.



SECURITY OF LIFE IN MINES.——Experiments carried on in the Paris Catacombs with the Denayrouze Apparatus.



GRAND BALL GIVEN BY THE KHEDIVE OF EGYPT ON THE MARRIAGE OF HIS SON.

ABROAD.

A new French loan is spoken of.

The German Parliament will meet on the 10th of March.

The yellow fever, in its severest form, has broken out in the city of Rio de Janeiro, but had not reached the shipping.

The Senate of the State of New York has elected the members of a committee to investigate the conduct of the Erie administration.

In pursuance of the new law against drunkenness, the Paris police apprehended no less than 122 drunken men in the streets in two days.

The French Government will maintain Sedan as a fortified place, and has ordered the erection of five detatched forts on the neighbouring heights.

The total number of options for French nationality in Upper Alsace, recognized by the German Government as valid, is 9,053, out of nearly 92,000.

The American Judiciary Committee has reported on Monday that there was no jurisdiction for impeaching Vice-President Colfax on account of the Crédit Mobilier transactions.

The 23rd of February, was the day selected as propitious by the Astronomical Board of China for the young Emperor of that country to assume the chief command of the Government.

A bill has been passed at Washington authorizing the laying of a cable between America and Asia, the United States furnishing vessels for the soundings and the laying of the cable.

The famous yacht *Henrietta*, once the property of Mr. James Bennett, of the *New York Herald*, the winner of the first Transatlantic race, has been totally wrecked during a heavy gale at Honduras.

Schools have been established in Bankok, near the palaces of the Kings of Siam, for the education of the sons of noblemen. European schoolmasters have been employed to instruct the pupils in English.

Porto Rico has for the first time since the abdication of King Amadeus shown some disaffection. An insurrection broke out, and cries of "Death to Spain" were raised. In quelling the disturbance three of the insurgents were killed.

A mixed Commission has been appointed to investigate the alleged circumstances of the recent Russian violation of the Prussian frontier, General Hohn, District Director Krulow, and a brigadier of frontier gendarmerie, represent the Russian Government.

At Thorn, in Prussia, the four hundredth anniversary of the birthday of Copernicus, the astronomer, was celebrated last week. Speeches were delivered by several scientific men, and a ball was given in the Town-hall. Copernicus was born at Thorn in 1473.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* states that a survey has been ordered upon all the chain cables in the Mediterranean and Channel squadrons in consequence of the late accident in Funchal Roads. This is locking the stable-door after the steed is stolen.

Five hundred journeymen bakers have posted placards in the streets of Stuttgart, threatening a strike unless their demands for an increase of wages, a reduction in the number of working hours, less labour on Sundays, and none at all on important holidays, are complied with.

A protest of the clergy of the Canton of Geneva has been presented to the Grand Council, in which it is declared that the banishment of Mgr. Mermillod will not diminish the validity of the trust confided to him by the Pope, and will increase their submission to the authority.

A Socialist insurrection of the peasants has broken out in the Russian provences of the Urkraine, Volhynia, and Podolia. The insurgents were committing frightful atrocities, murdering, plundering, and burning in all directions, and the Russian troops had been beaten by the rebels.

From Paris comes the most decisive confirmation of the failure of the supposed fusion declarations of the Comte de Chambord and the Duc d'Aumale, which shows that the schism is complete. The Duke is reported to have said of the Count, "We want neither his flag nor his temporal power."

Another exposure has been made in the American Congress. The report of the committee of inquiry into the railway frauds accuses the Union-Pacific Company of dishonest management, and recommends that actions should be brought to recover the moneys illegally paid to the already disgraced Crédit Mobilier.

Intelligence has reached Bordeaux by the French mail from Goree that one of the English settlements in the river Gambia had been attacked by the natives, the buildings and property destroyed, and that the Mahommedans were meditating an attack upon Bathurst, the principal town of the colony, and the seat of the British Government.

The legendary town of Abensberg, in Bavaria, is mentioned in relation to a treble murder perpetrated in its neighbourhood. Three graziers, whilst going to the cattle market, were assailed by three bushrangers, who shot two of them, grievously wounded the third, and robbed all of them of their money, about 80*l*. The crime was committed at 8 a.m., on the high road, which leads through a forest.

President Grant has sent a message to Congress, strongly urging immediate legislation on the Fisheries question. He says Great Britain and her possessions have enacted the necessary laws on the subject, and it is of importance that the rights of American fishermen should be determined before the approaching fishing season opens. Thus grave questions which might arise between the two Governments will be averted.

The Wagener scandal is having companions. A similar case has come to light in the Grand Duchy of Brunswick, and others are reported in the Grand Duchy of Hesse. One of the high officials of the former, Herr Lochneissen, Director of Mines, has been accused in the Chamber of Representatives of making use of railway contracts to the advantage of his son, a cavalry officer, to the injury of other competitors. A demand for investigation has been made, but the Government meantime supports its officer.

At length we possess definite statistics showing the German losses in the war with France. The total number killed, wounded, and missing amounts to 127,897. Of these there were killed in action 17,572; those who died afterwards from their wounds numbered 10,710; from sickness, 12,253; from accidents, 316; from suicide, 30: the total number who died being thus 40,881, including 1,534 officers. During the war there were no less than 1,599 encounters with the enemy which were attended with loss of life.

Advices from Gibraltar state that a gallant act was lately performed by Mr. Henry Neale Scaife, paymaster of H.M.S. *Hercules*, and by a seaman of the name of Edwin Alldridge, of the same vessel, who jumped overboard, while the ship was off the New Mole, into 20 feet of water, and saved the life of Mr. de Vries, the paymaster of the *Minotaur*, who, being very short-sighted, walked in a dark night over the jetty, and not being able to swim, would have been drowned if a timely rescue had not been at hand.

It is confidently stated in St. Petersburg that Count Schouvaloff will replace Baron Brunnow as Ambassador at the Court of St. James's. A report is current, moreover, that Prince Gortschakoff proposes that the settlement of details in connection with the boundaries of Afghanistan should be confided to a special diplomatic commission, to be composed of representatives of England and Russia. In the Russian Foreign Office it is thought likely that Khiva will give in, and thus avert the necessity of the contemplated expedition.

But recently we were astounded at the zeal of the Japanese in connecting themselves with European life, to the extent of proposing to adopt the English language as the language of Japan for the future. We now learn that the Japanese have determined to adopt a national coat of arms and a motto like those of England. As we cannot part with our lion, notwithstanding its weakened and impoverished condition through a long course of Gladstonian keep, we would suggest to our admirers a thoroughly Japanese emblem—to wit—a fan, with the motto "Cossi *fan* tutte."

At length the report of the Commission of Thirty has been presented to the National Assembly. With the exception of its formalities designed to prevent M. Thiers from exercising too great pressure during debates, it is very deferential to the President, and appears to have been on the whole well received by the Assembly, if we except the passage relating to the Second Chamber, which, with characteristic faculty for inventing irritating expressions, was denominated "a Chamber of resistance." At this the Left protested vehemently. The report, moreover, leaves it to the Ministry to draw up an electoral law, and make their proposals for the transmission of the executive power.

The Vienna Exhibition appears likely to be ready for opening, as arranged, on the 1st May. Some of the galleries are quite finished, and only need to be fitted up by the exhibitors. The immense dome, the largest ever attempted, is described as being to other domes what the *Great Eastern* was to other ocean steamers. In addition to the main building, there is a great detached gallery for machinery, and a separate department of considerable size for works of art; while many smaller structures are scattered through the grounds. Already in anticipation of the influx of visitors this summer, rents have risen considerably. Living, too, is twice as high as it was a few years ago.

The Russian Expedition to Khiva is pushing on. The 4th Battalion of Turkestan Rifles started on its march across the steppes on the 20th of January, in the direction of Orsk, the two Orenburg battalions following it soon after. The train belonging to the Rifle Battalion had been sent on in advance as early as the 9th of January, but stuck fast in the snow in a mountain-pass five versts from its starting place, and had to be dug out by the troops following eleven days after. Some of the train waggons had to be left behind even then, and the column was, at the time of writing, progressing but slowly through deep snow across the steppes. It was expected at Orenburg that the return of Khivese merchants to Khiva with the tidings would alarm the whole Khanate.

Monsignor Mermillod was waited upon, on Sunday, at Ferney, by representatives of all the Catholic communes in the Canton of Geneva to present him with addresses. He left the curé's house, and descended to the College of Ferney to receive these addresses. The court of the college was filled by a crowd estimated at three thousand. A temporary platform was erected for the Bishop and the attendant priests. The addresses were presented, and three speeches made accompanying them. The Bishop replied in an eloquent speech. He said that no Genevese had been expelled from the country since 1815, and that, although he himself had been sent from his native land, yet he would live in the hearts of all Catholics. The Bishop's speech was continually interrupted by cheers and other signs of approval.

Mr. Macdonnell, British Chargé d'Affaires at Buenos Ayres, in his recent report, describes the Welsh colony of Chuput, on the coast of Patagonia, founded in 1865 by 180 Welshmen, as the least inviting of all the colonies to which he has to refer. The land at this spot being unsuitable for cultivation, the colonists have been left to depend for subsistence upon the export of ostrich feathers and guanaco and other skins, obtained by barter from the Indians. The scanty crops were yearly destroyed by droughts or inundations; the few head of cattle possessed were carried off by the Indians; the colonists themselves were separated for months from the outer world, and left with gradually diminishing numbers, literally to starve; but, nevertheless, they kept resolutely to their settlement, relying on the assistance of the Argentine Government and the charity of the British community in Buenos Ayres, but for which they must have perished. Last year the Provincial Government of Buenos Ayres directed the removal of these Welsh colonists to a site on the Rio Negro, in the neighbourhood of the Port of Partagones, about 150 miles north of their old settlement. Mr. Macdonnell says that the new position is perhaps less suitable for colonization than the old.

The Parisian police had long been on a fruitless watch for a band of marauders who had perpetrated several robberies, three of them accompanied by murder. After a long search they have at last captured the chief of the band, a young scoundrel of the deepest dye, named Geilinger, and were surprised to find that the Lara who led this band of pirates, and had tamed them to his will, was a beardless boy, who, by the sheer force of remarkable intelligence and a revolting recklessness, had ruled stern, strong men to obey his ruthless orders, and to bring to him untouched the booty, that he might share it equally amongst the crew. His lieutenant is a young ruffian named Renault, a scamp belonging to a respectable family, who, failing to reclaim him from early inclination for crime and vice, had sent him to sea, where he appears to have contracted vices of the worst description. Some of the others were striplings, others men who had not yet arrived at years of discretion, and two girls of sixteen. They sallied forth in the evening, armed with knives, generally in the suburbs of Paris, where they are known to have effected eighty robberies at least. They attacked and murdered a forest guard at Noisy, another at Charenton, waylaid and plundered solitary travellers on lonely roads at nightfall; but when driven by want of plunder, or by fears of detection to the capital, incredible as it may seem, they enticed well-dressed men into the Palais Royal Gardens, and there, in the very heart and centre of populous Paris, contrived to rob them, then stuck their knives into them, and tossed them into the basin.

A fearful disaster has occurred in Smyrna. On Saturday night, the 9th ult., at 10 o'clock, the Café Kivoto, built upon piles on the sea, broke down suddenly during a performance given by a company of acrobats. The proprietor of the café says he only sold 108 tickets, but the people saved declare that there were 200 persons present. Most of them were of the poorer class, and there were not many Turks there, or young men of respectable families. At 10 o'clock a loud cracking was heard, and within five minutes the entire café had disappeared under water. A few of the persons near the entrance contrived to escape, and some persons saved themselves by jumping through the windows into the sea. The boatmen rowed up in numbers, but their efforts to save life were in vain. The search after the dead bodies the next day was a sad spectacle; the acrobats were withdrawn from the water in their showy costumes of the previous night; the limbs of all the bodies were contracted with pain. Two hearses were engaged the whole of the day in conveying the remains discovered to the hospitals. The total number of bodies recovered up to the Tuesday was 80, and it was supposed there were 50 more in the water. An English captain, two Turkish merchants, a young man of good connections, an Italian captain, a telegraph clerk, and some commercial clerks were among the victims. The police have closed all the other cafés built upon piles on the sea. One man saved has lost the use of his speech from fright. The company of acrobats consisted of seven persons, of whom three were women, and one of these latter only survives. The Government will institute proceedings against the proprietor of the café, who did not pay heed to the warning of danger which was given him in time.

A Polo Club is to be established in London, under the highest patronage. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has accepted the presidency, the Duke of Edinburgh and a great number of the aristocracy being enrolled as members. They propose taking Cremorne and adapting it to the purposes of the game.

A noble young man in Indianapolis recently determined to abandon the use of tobacco. He was told that iced drinks would diminish his hankering for the weed. So on the first day he drank three gallons of iced water, and still feeling a desire to smoke, he added two quarts of cold buttermilk. He went to bed with the cheerful conviction that he had conquered his craving, and so he had. The next day he did not desire to smoke at all, for the simple reason that he was dead. The iced water, the iced buttermilk, the abandonment of his cigar, and two doctors who were called in consultation, proved to be too much for the noble young man.

A number of English, a few Portuguese, and a few Chinese words, all wrought into Chinese idioms, make up the business language which is used between the Chinese and English speaking traders. This language is called "Pigeon English." An Englishman translated into Pigeon the familiar address, "My name is Norval; on the Grampian Hills my father feeds his flocks," and the result was, "My name is b'long Norval. Top side kehlampian hills my fader chow chow he sheep." But the next sentence beggared the language, and "A frugal swain, whose constant care is to increase his store," had to be freely "done" in this shape—"My fader very small heartee man—too much like dat piecie dolla."

Already we are threatened with a severe attack of the annual dark blue and light blue fever as it breaks out in the newspapers. There is reason in all things; and while we yield to none of our contemporaries in admitting and recognizing the public feeling of interest in the aquatic contest between the two Universities, we cannot help thinking that the same public would be grateful to the press for making just a little less fuss about it. Even now the critics have commenced to give tongue, and journals of every sort and capacity have engaged amphibious touts, prophets, and past-grand oarsmen to watch the crew here and the crew there, to tell us when one caught a crab and another a cold, and that there is a dreadful rumour in the air that the great stroke of Camford will not be found in his place after all when the day comes. A little of this may be acceptable, but columns of it for breakfast weeks before the important race, is, to say the least of it, giving us rather too much of a good thing. It tends to make many people angry and impatient with the affair altogether.

Some people never know when they are well off. The reading-room at the British Museum is one of the greatest privileges existing—a God-send to literary men, a paradise to the industrious, and a playground to the frivolous. Like all excellent institutions, this blessing is much abused. Flirtation, novel-reading, crochet-work, chattering, and gossip, are carried on under the eye of the most courteous attendants, who are pestered all day with useless questions. But it is a little too bad when the Museum authorities are blamed for not turning it into a lending library. The latest complaint is that books may not be taken out and carried home, and that the nation does not provide for nothing a gigantic circulating library. The proposition is altogether monstrous and indefensible. The fact is that the Museum authorities are too indulgent. They permit novel-reading and frivolity, which might just as well be carried on elsewhere, and they do not—as they should—reserve the place entirely for students. We have hopes that the time will come when the Museum library will be open at night, but we are quite sure no Government will sanction any proposal to jeopardize the safety of the noble collection of books by lending a single volume.—*The Era.*

Madame Tussaud's Exhibition.—A portrait model of his late Imperial Majesty NAPOLEON III, lying in state is now added. Napoleon relics. "The most remarkable thing in the museum," says M. de Cassagnac, "is the grand physiognomy of Napoleon I." Everything connected with him has been collected with admirable care.—Admission 1s. Children under ten, 6d. Extra rooms, 6d. Open from 10 a.m. till 10 p.m.—[Advt.]

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

THE QUEEN AT CHISLEHURST.

Her Majesty the Queen, accompanied by the Princess Beatrice, paid a visit of condolence to the Empress Eugénie at Chislehurst, on Thursday, the 20th inst. The train arrived at Chislehurst at a little after eleven o'clock. The Queen was received on the platform by Viscount Sydney, and Her Majesty and the Princess Beatrice—who carried a bouquet, and who were attended by Lady Churchill and Colonel Maude—were at once driven to St. Mary's Church. of which we give an engraving on our last page. The Queen's arrival was so little known that when the royal carriage reached St. Mary's not a single loiterer was observable, the police being the only persons in the vicinity of the church. Her Majesty was received at the entrance gate by the Rev. J. Goddard, the priest, who had the honour of submitting to the Queen the plans of the chapel about to be built at the Empress Eugénie's expense, for the purpose of temporarily receiving the Emperor's remains. Entering the church, the Queen and Princess Beatrice stood before the little mortuary chapel in which the Emperor's coffin is placed. The coffin, covered by a rich pall, still rests on the bier as on the day of the funeral, and every day brings its addition of prettily-devised floral tokens of respect and sympathy with the illustrious deceased. Many such tributes were deposited, some very chaste ones among them, worked in camellias, violets, and other choice flowers. To these floral testimonials of regret the Queen and the Princess, ere they left the church, added each a bouquet. Her Majesty's was of blue and white violets, which the Queen laid amongst an "in memoriam" wreath of yellow "immortelles" on the summit of the flowers in front of the gate. The bouquet which the Princess Beatrice placed on the left of Her Majesty's was of white camellias and other flowers, and lies amidst a wreath of odorous blue violets. The Queen remained in the church about a quarter of an hour, and then Her Majesty proceeded to pay her visit of condolence to the Empress Eugénie at Camden House, at the entrance gate of which a few persons had gathered to witness the Queen's arrival.

Her Majesty on reaching the house was received at the entrance by the Empress and the Prince Imperial. As the Royal visit was essentially a private and consolatory one, there was no attempt to invest the reception with anything of a State character. Immediately after her arrival the Queen proceeded to the apartments of the widowed Empress, and remained for a long time in conversation with her Majesty. The Prince Imperial was present during the whole of the visit. Amongst those present to receive the Queen and Princess Beatrice were the Duc de Bassano, Count Davilliers, Count Clary, M. Piétri (the secretary to the late Emperor), Baron Corvisart, her Highness the Princess Murat, the Duchesse de Montijo (the Empress's niece), Madame le Breton-Bourbaki, and Mdlle. de Larminat.

The Queen's visit lasted about an hour and a quarter, and at its conclusion her Majesty and Princess Beatrice returned to Windsor.

THE KHEDIVE'S GRAND BALL AT CAIRO.

In connection with the festivities that recently took place at Cairo on the occasion of the wedding of the Khedive of Egypt's eldest son, we last week published an engraving representing the arrival of His Highness at the Elmich palace, where the marriage ceremony took place. This ceremony was fully described in an extract from a letter of M. Darjou, our artist, who now writes to us, enclosing the sketch engraved this week, as follows:—

"I wrote to you in my last letter about the first day of the Cairo festivities. On the 18th January a ball was given at the Ghezireh palace.

"This palace is situate on the Nile, facing the port of Boulaq. Built in the midst of immense gardens, all brilliantly illuminated and, itself glittering with fire from roof to basement, it presented a most fairy-like spectacle on this occasion, reminding one of a page from the "Arabian Nights." The suite of saloons in which the ball was given is on the first floor, and opens into another suite of private apartments occupied by the Empress Eugénie during her stay in Egypt as the Khedive's guest. These saloons are all decorated with a lavish magnificence astounding to Western eyes, amongst their principal adornments figuring numerous superb crystal chandeliers, manufactured by Messrs. J. Defries & Sons, at an approximative cost of a thousand pounds apiece.

"As to the ball, it resembled all other official balls, no matter where, being an assembly of from four to five thousand people, more or less, decorated with stars and crosses, the assemblage of black coats being relieved by a number of officers belonging to the Egyptian army, and by a few foreign uniforms. Some interest attached to the presence of Egyptian ladies wedded to Europeans, and figuring, apparently not quite at home, in Parisian toilettes. There were also a few Orientals of the old school gravely promenading amongst the crowd, in long silken tunics girded by gay-coloured sashes and loose outer robes reaching to their papouche-covered feet."

SENORS MARTOS AND FIGUERAS.

Senor Christino Martos, who was elected President of the newly-formed Assembly by 222 votes against 36, is, like most of the members of the Spanish Provisional Government, a comparatively yonng man. Amongst his countrymen he is considered one of those most likely to do good service towards the building up of a staple Republican Government. It is even said that the part he played in the former Zorilla Cabinet contributed not a little to the present state of affairs. The Radical or Progressista party, of which he is one of the chief leaders, were only temporarily separated from the Republicans by the desire of trying if the Government could be accomplished by a constitutional monarchy, being, however, by no means sanguine as to a successful result of the experiment. "We Radicals consider," observed Senor Martos, "not what suits ourselves, but what is most desired by the majority of our countrymen." But although he figured amongst the servants of the late Government, he has always been considered at heart a Republican.

Senor Figueras the President of the Council is a Federal Republican. By profession he is a barrister, and all are unanimous in rendering justice to his eloquence and talent. He is a perfect man of business, and at the same time one of most fascinating manners. He has greatly distinguished himself both as a reasoner and an orator during the debates of the last few years, and possesses great influence over his countrymen. On the 10th of February a few words spoken by him from a window of the Palace of the Cortes sufficed to induce the crowd, which attracted by various rumours had surrounded the building and rendered ingress and egress most difficult, to disperse. At the sound of his voice the crowd, which was composed of all classes of society, retired, applauding him. The two most singular features in this revolution, this bloodless, tranquil transformation, are the calmness with which it has been accomplished, and the disinterested character of its promoters. A change in the dynasty generally brings down upon its successors swarms of place-hunters; but all the leading Republicans have shown the utmost unanimity in refusing posts of mere honour and emolument, although those who have refused them are known to have but slender resources. Even Cromwell was troubled to satisfy the rapacity of the Fairfaxes and Ironsides, who clamoured for place and booty, and Republican leaders rarely have the good fortune to light upon such singular abnegation.

DEPARTURE OF KING AMADEUS FROM MADRID.

We have already recorded the circumstances which led to King Amadeus laying aside the crown that had been bestowed upon him by the Spanish people, and mentioned the fact of his immediate departure for Portugal, where his sister, Queen Pia, is the wife of the reigning monarch.

We have received two sketches from Madrid illustrating the incidents of this departure. After his formal abdication King Amadeus very wisely determined to leave Madrid at once. On the morning of the 13th ult., at six o'clock, four plain carriages drew up at the palace-gate. The Royal Guard lined the two sides of the grand staircase, down which the Queen, who wept abundantly, was carried on a litter—for she had not previously risen from her bed since her confinement—and was gently lifted by the King himself into one of the carriages. The three children and principal officers of the household, with half-a-dozen deputies, filled the others, and thus the young monarch left the ungrateful and unsympathizing Spaniards for ever. At the station, despite the early hour, some members of the diplomatic body, a few ex-ministers, and several deputies were present. The Queen was carried from her carriage to the train in a large old-fashioned sedan-chair' and then the King, having shaken hands warmly with several of the few faithful ones present, took his place by her side. Several personages requested permission to accompany him to the frontier, and, on his according this, the train moved off in mournful silence.

It is well to relate that since the King's departure his worth has been better appreciated by the people over whom he has ceased to rule. Much respect, almost amounting to affectionate regret, is expressed by the warmest Republicans when speaking of their late King. His dignified and manly conduct is highly extolled, and all are loud in their testimony as to the late King's integrity. Not only had he abstained from carrying off anything from the palace; but he had left behind all the additions which he had made to the furniture, even nicknacks and *bibelots*, some of great value, all of which had been purchased with his own money, as the King's civil list failed to defray his expenditure, and he had notoriously expended much of his private fortune in keeping up his regal state. Before his departure the major-domo summoned all the tradesmen to the palace, and paid off their bills to the uttermost farthing. The Spaniards contrast this regal bearing with Queen Isabella's and her mother's pilfering propensities, as their intendants were so engaged for days before their departure in packing up all that was portable, that they were unable to attend to the demands of the palace creditors, whose claims for payment have since been disgracefully repudiated by the Queen.

King Amadeus Ferdinand Maria, we may remark, is the second son of Victor Emmanuel of Italy, and was born in 1845. In 1866 he was present at the battle of Custozza, where he distinguished himself by his courage and coolness, and in the following year married the Princess Maria, daughter of Prince Charles Emmanuel del Pozza della Cisterna, the wealthiest heiress in Italy. Up to the time of his ascending the Spanish throne, which he occupied for twenty-five months and a few days, he was best known as the Duke of Aosta.

SCENES IN BARCELONA AND MADRID.

It will be remembered that the proclamation of the Spanish Republic in Barcelona was attended with some slight confusion. The workmen and the students both paraded the streets in masses, and a body of the former took temporary possession of the Town-hall. However, they were soon persuaded to vacate it without anything of a nature to provoke a disturbance occurring. The different provinces of Spain still retain their peculiar costumes, the peculiar bag-like cap and hempen sandals which the Catalonian affects being shown in our engraving.

In the sketch of reading a decree of the Provisional Government in the streets of Madrid, quite another set of people is shown. The gentleman in the fur-cap, with the cane and cigarette, is a true type of the Madrid bully, probably a bull-fighter in private life, whilst beyond him we have a Gallician water-carrier and a Manchegan labourer.

◆

IN SPAIN.

The anticipated crisis in the Spanish Cabinet has resulted in the resignation of four of its Radical members—Senores Cordova, War; Echegarray, Finance; Beranger, Marine; and Becerra, Public Works. On Monday the Assembly elected a new Ministry, with Senor Figueras as President, by 231 votes out of 245. Senor Castelbar was elected Minister of State by 243 votes; Senor Salmeron, Minister of Justice, by 220 votes; Senor Pi y Margall, to the Home Office, by 226; General Acosta, Minister of War, by 149; Senor Oreiro, to the Admiralty, by 176; Senor Tutan, to the Ministry of Finance, by 169; Senor Chao, Minister of Public Works, by 172; and Senor Sorni, to the Ministry of the Colonies, by 173 votes.

Senor Figueras then made a short speech, in which he thanked the Assembly for the honour done to him, and declared that there would be no change in the programme of the new Ministry.

The new elections will probably take place on the 31st March, and a Constituent Assembly will meet on the 20th of April.

There is reason to believe that the ministerial crisis which has just occurred will prevent for some time the popular outbreak which was expected.

At the request of the Consuls, and as a precaution, the Maritime Powers have sent vessels to cruise off the Spanish coast for the protection of their subjects.

Three of the great European Powers have not concealed their opinion from the Spanish Government that in the interest of Spain itself it is to be desired that the tranquillity of Portugal should not be disturbed. The Spanish Government applied to that of Germany for recognition, upon which the question was referred to Russia, to ascertain the course which would be taken by that Power, in order that Germany might act in concert with her. In official circles, both at St. Petersburg and at Berlin, apprehension is felt that there may be before very long an uprising of Communists at Madrid, and that such a Republican or Socialistic movement may spread to Portugal. For the present, consequently, the question of recognition has been deferred.

Senor Martos, the President of the Cortes, assured a deputation of the National Guard who came to announce their devotion to the Assembly, that Congress, relying on the Army and the Republican Volunteers, will firmly repress both reactionists and demagogues.

General Sickles appears to have advised very freely the Spanish Ministers and politicians present at the celebration of Washington's birthday on Saturday last. He warned them against allowing the people to bear arms without being organized; and added that, as the Spaniards appeared to understand their rights, they must, as soon as possible, be taught their duties.

Great changes have already been decreed in the military system. The conscription has been abolished. The active army is in future to consist of volunteers between the ages of nineteen and forty, and the reserve of all who are above the age of forty. The power of mobilizing the army by a simple decree is placed in the hands of the Government.

The rumour that Communists had entered Spain is incorrect. A committee of the chief men of all parties is being organized to form a general treaty of alliance, to forget their former differences, and to urge their partizans to support the Republic, which is the only possible Government in Spain. The idea of a Federal Conservative Republic is gaining ground.

The *Imparcial* announces that the resignation of 32 colonels and 40 lieutenant-colonels of the artillery has been accepted.

Details brought by letter of the late events in Barcelona to the 22nd state that on the previous day considerable excitement prevailed, in consequence of the removal of two battalions of troops. One battalion left the city quietly according to orders, but the other made some resistance, and, instead of marching directly away, went to the principal public square. There a long agitation ensued; the soldiers, with reversed muskets, fraternized with the people, many of whom wore Phrygian caps. The "Marseillaise" was sung, and there were repeated cheers for the Democratic Federal Republic. A member of the Federalist Committee harangued the soldiers and the populace from the balcony of the residence of the Provincial Deputation, where a red flag was displayed. He said that the demonstration signified the adhesion of the army to the Federal Republic. After he had concluded, a soldier addressed his comrades, and said there was an end of kings, and that the army was now free and would defend nothing but the Democratic Federal Republic. Finally the troops moved off without any serious disturbance ensuing, although apprehensions were entertained at one moment, when an artillery detachment passed through the men, but did not fraternise. Some peasants commenced making barricades, but they were persuaded to desist. Several deputations of soldiers recently visited the Provincial Council, demanding their discharge in consequence of the establishment of the Republic. The Republicans at Bilboa have demanded arms, and the authorities have promised to supply them.

A great emigration of families from Madrid and other towns is taking place.

The Carlist insurrection holds its own. The chief cause why the rebellion has lasted so long, and assumed such alarming proportions, is the system of *indultos*, or free pardons, introduced by the Duc de la Torre last spring. A Carlist, even if defeated, knows that he is quite safe if he can manage to avoid being taken with arms in his hands. He has only to present himself at the nearest town, say that he surrenders, and claim his *indulto*, and he is free to go where he likes till he is ready to begin again. There are many well-known men who have already surrendered four or five times, and will probably do so as often again if the Government continue this mistaken clemency. If it were to be made public that all known to be in arms against the Government, after having already claimed the benefit of the *indulto*, would be shot when captured, and that all connected with robbing railway trains and burning railway stations and houses would be treated like common felons, there is no doubt that all the persuasive eloquence of the priests, and even the liberal wages which have been promised, would be insufficient to induce many of these poor ignorant peasants to serve under the banners of Don Carlos.

Letters from the frontier from Carlist sources confirm the entry into Spain of Donegary on the 17th, with Valdespina, Marquis Holnazar, and other Carlist chiefs. They were received by the Carlists, at Elizondo, on the 18th, and there was much rejoicing. No mention, however, is made of Don Carlos being present. Lizzarraga has resumed the command of his band. The Spanish Government has despatched all its available troops from Vittoria to Tolosa, and is preparing to carry on vigorous operations against the Carlists. At St. Sebastian, 1,200 volunteers are arming.

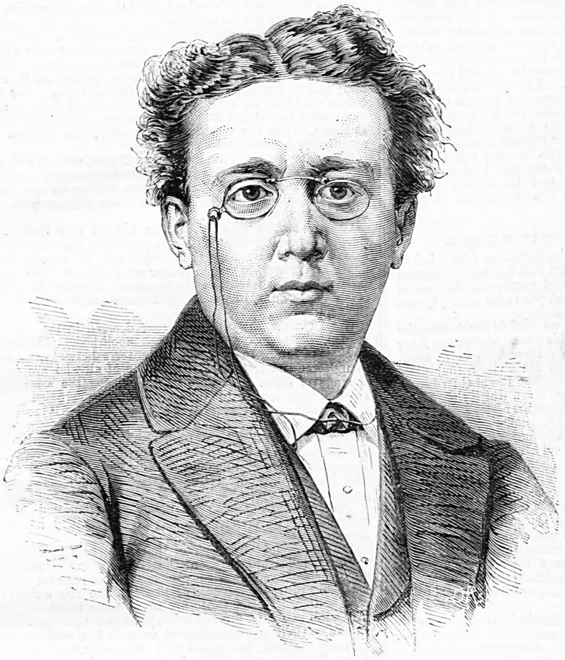
The engagement of the 16th at Miravallo was a serious affair. The Carlists numbered 1,500 men, and the troops having taken up an entrenched position, repulsed the Carlists after a stubborn fight. Numerous bands were in the neighbourhood of Bilbao, and have burnt down all the railway stations, eight in number, between Bilbao and Miranda. Communication between Bilbao and Madrid is still maintained *via* Santander and Valladolid.

Advices received from Reus, dated the 20th inst., report that numerous Carlist bands have crossed the Ebro, and have entered the district of Maestrazgo. One of them stopped the train from Valencia, and cut the railway line.

It is asserted—but the report requires confirmation—that Don Carlos has crossed the Spanish frontier, and that General Savallo, a supporter of Carlist pretensions, is marching in the direction of Madrid with four battalions.

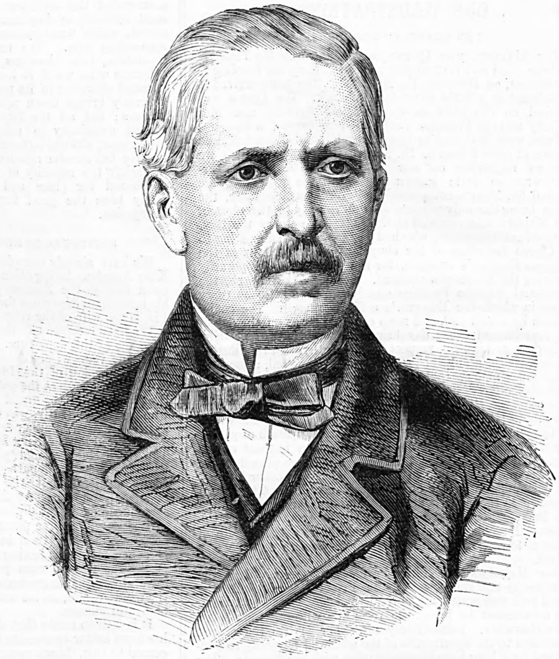
Portugal has declared that, while desiring to live upon good terms with Spain, it has no intention to allow itself to be absorbed in an Iberian agglomeration, but is determined to maintain its own independence. The Portuguese Cortes has adopted, by fifty votes against thirty-one, the proposition of the Government to call out the reserves.

The King of Portugal and the ex-King Amadeus lunched on Monday with the English admiral on board her Majesty's ship *Minotaur*, where they were received with royal honours.



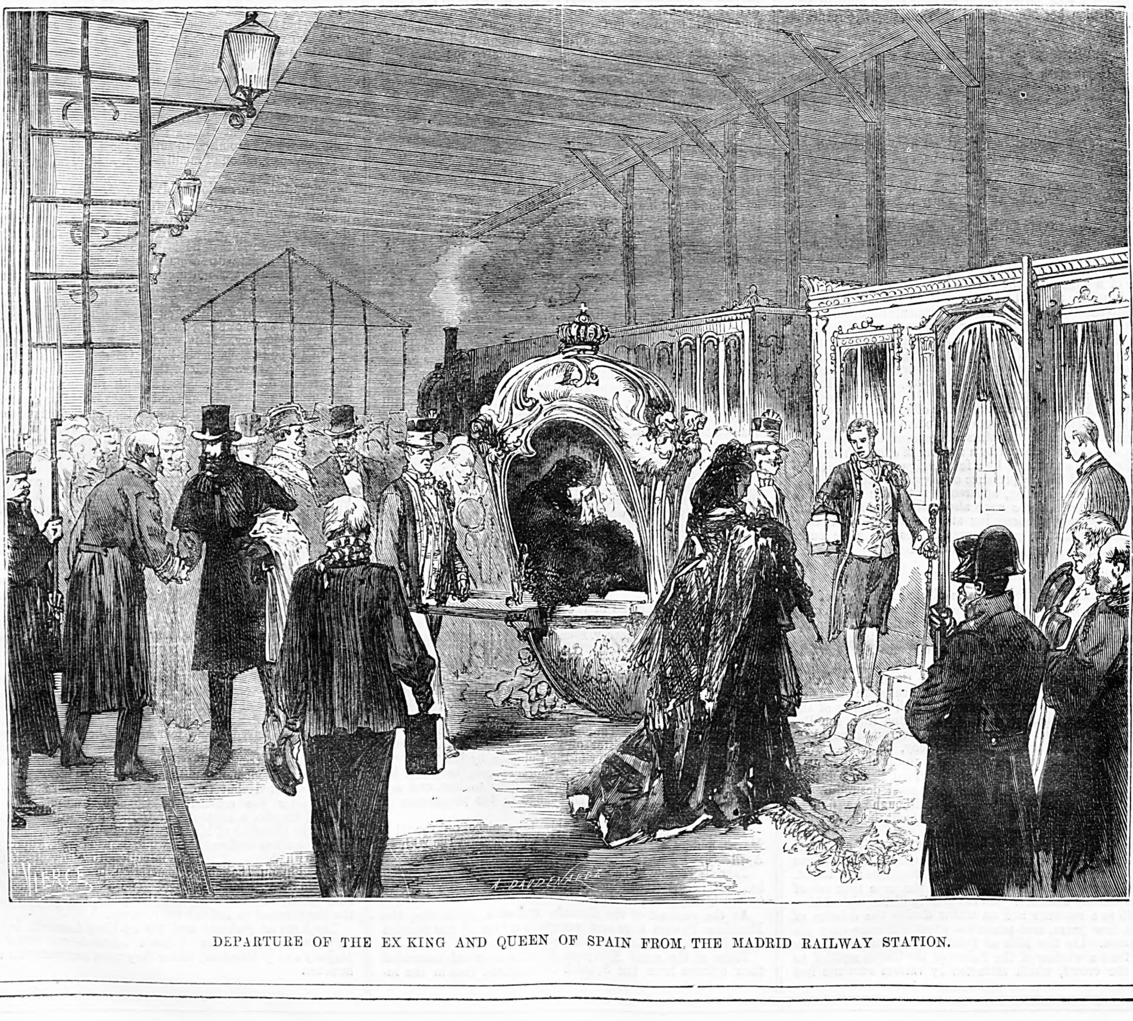
SENOR MARTOS,

President of the Assembly of the Spanish Republic.



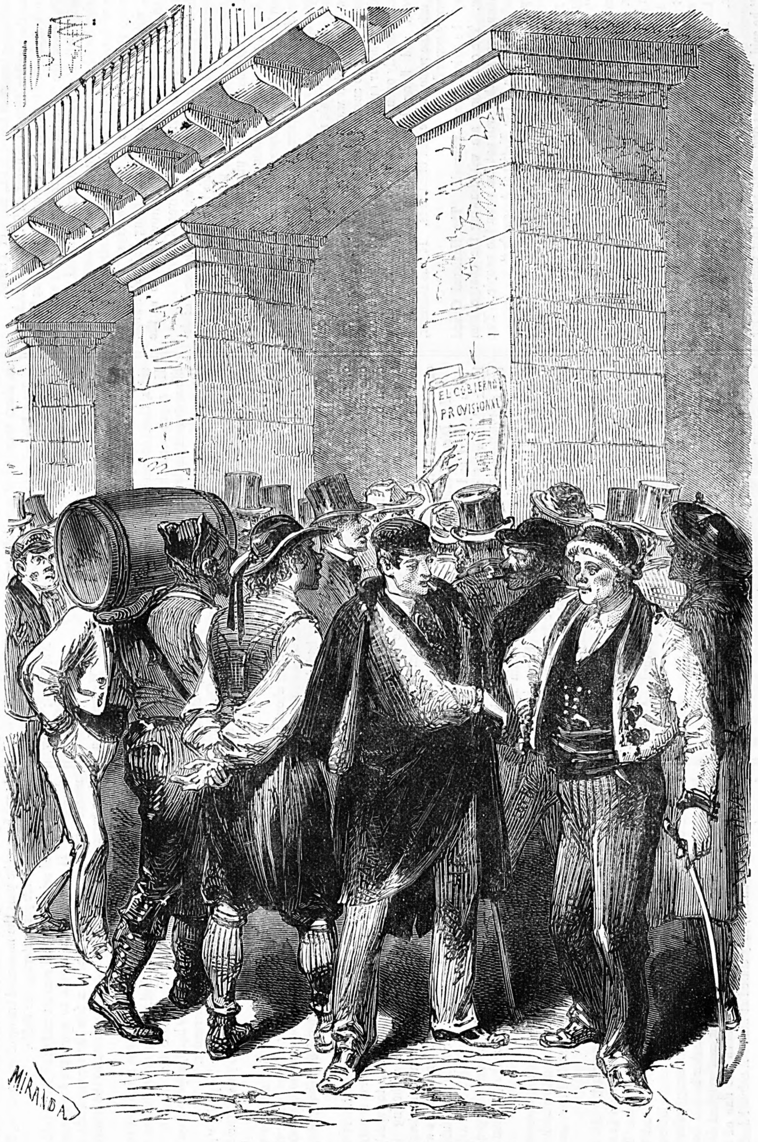
SENOR FIGUERAS,

President of the Council of the Spanish Republic.

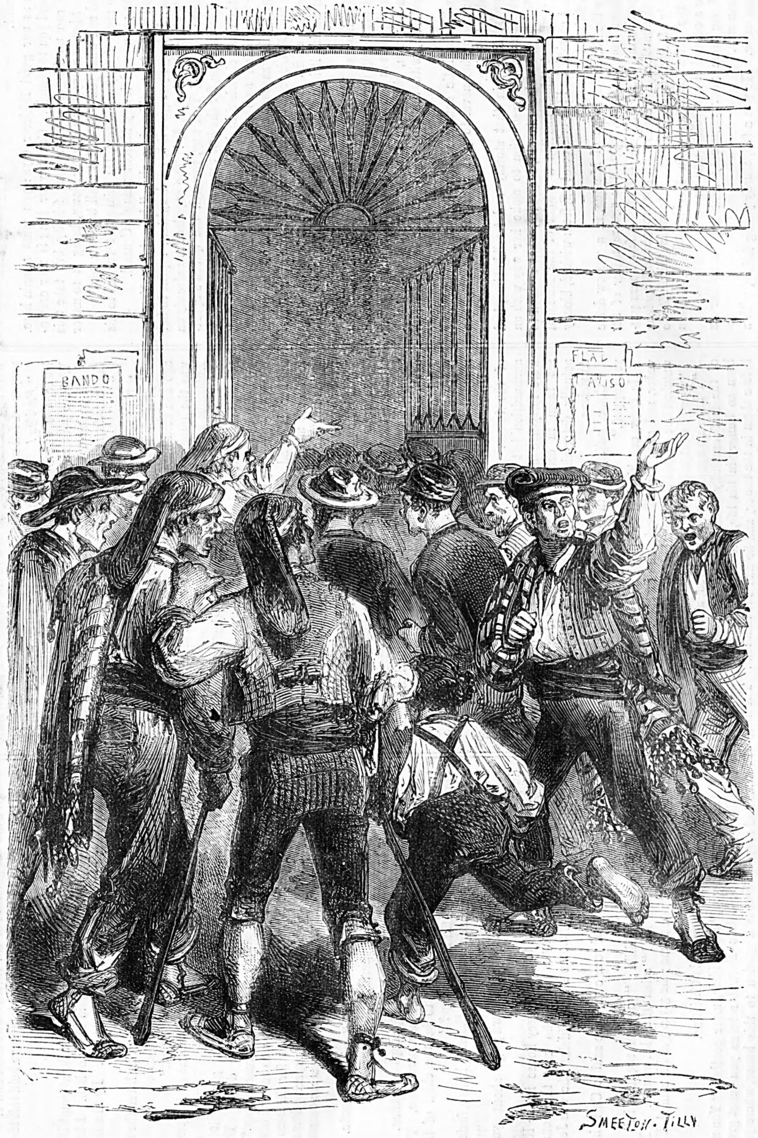


DEPARTURE OF THE EX KING AND QUEEN OF SPAIN FROM THE MADRID RAILWAY STATION.

SCENES OF THE SPANISH REVOLUTION.


EL GOBIERNO PROVISIONAL
MIRANDA

Proclamation of the Republic in Madrid.


BANDO
FLAL
AVISO
SMEETON·TILLY

The Mob Entering the Town Hall at Barcelona.

THE CROSS OF PEARLS.

CHAPTER I.

It hung from the broad ribbon of the Order of St. Louis, on the unhappy breast of Louis XVI., King of France.

It was the terrible 10th of August, 1792. Six o'clock had just struck from the tower of St. Jacques. The long façade of the Palace of the Tuileries glittered in the early sunlight. Outside its walls a vast crowd of human devils had collected, clamouring for blood. Wild men, in torn blouses, shouting, "Down with the tyrant! To death!—to death with him!" These were the *sans culottes* of the faubourgs. Dishevelled women, with blood-shotten eyes and flying hair, shrieking, "Give us the head of the queen! Throw down to us the queen's head!" These were the fishwives of Paris.

Inside the palace, the royal family, with a little band of devoted courtiers, stood listening to this horrible clamour. The face of the queen was like some piece of exquisite marble. That of the king was calm and unmoved: as near the heroic as that broad, plain, common face could ever be. The servants and courtiers, all pale as spectres, clustered around the crownless sovereigns in utter silence. The king turned to the Count de Liancourt.

"What an interminable night!" he said, wearily. He did not seem to see that it was now day.

The count tried to answer, but his voice was drowned in the tremendous clamour outside. At the same moment the door was burst violently open from without. De Liancourt drew his sword and flung himself before the king. A man rushed into the room, white and breathless. It was Röderer, the attorney-general.

"Sire," he cried, "save yourself! The National Guard are false. The cannoniers are withdrawing the charge from the cannon, because they will not fire upon the people. You must seek protection in the National Assembly."

A cry of indignation broke from all present. The Count de Liancourt waved Röderer haughtily aside. "Sire," said he, "if you go to this assembly of traitors and ruffians, we go with you. Their daggers shall reach you only over our dead bodies."

"Great God, count!" cried Röderer, "you know not what you say. Such a demonstration would be the death of us all. Remain here quietly, or the king is lost!"

"My place is by the side of my sovereign," cried the count, sternly; "not to imperil, but to defend him. Whither he goes, I must follow."

The king laid his hand on the shoulder of his faithful courtier. He looked earnestly into the handsome kindling face.

"So," he said, "there is one heart still that would die for me?"

"There are many, sire."

The king shook his head. Then, from an order on his breast he detached a Maltese cross of unburnished gold, set about with pearls of enormous size. This he pressed into the hand of the count.

"It is as our good Röderer says: you must remain here. I command you to remain. Count, your king is now crownless; he can no longer reward your fidelity, but take this trinket. Should a happier day ever dawn, bring it to me or mine, and ask what you will, and it shall be given you."

As the royal family withdrew, De Liancourt turned to his sister, the young and lovely Marchioness de Crussol.

"I shall never leave this place alive," he said. "You see this cross: I charge you give it to my daughter; repeat to her the king's words: and now, fly! The populace are already on the staircase. Quick! This way, through the queen's apartments. Embrace me for the last time, my sister."

With the cross clenched in her hand, the marchioness fled, and the unresisted mob poured into the palace, howling, shrieking, slaying as they came. At the head of the grand staircase fell De Liancourt, pierced with a score of wounds. A wine-seller of St. Antoine cut off his head, set it on a pike, and carried it into the National Assembly to show to the king.

The Marchioness de Crussol perished on the guillotine. On the night preceding her execution she found means to conceal the cross of pearls in a most ingenious disguise, and pricking a vein in her arm, she wrote the message in blood, which she dispatched, with the king's gift, to her faithful maid, Fifine.

"Fly with the little countess; carry her to my mother at Brussels; charge her never to part with the inclosed gift so long as she shall live."

Unhappily, Fifine, in that stormy and terrible time, had neither the courage nor resolution to make her way with an infant child to Brussels. She did, therefore, what seemed to her the next best thing, married a soldier of the National Guard, and carried the little aristocrat off, from wicked, bloody Paris, to follow the camp.

During the far-famed siege of Mantua, in a narrow defile leading down from the Tyrol, stood the square tower of St. Lucca, garrisoned by fifty French troops. A few hours previous to the battle of Roveredo word was brought to Napoleon that a body of Austrians was moving towards this defile to surprise the little tower and join Davidovitch. Napoleon turned to a colonel of grenadiers who was standing near.

"Send me from your regiment," said he, "a soldier on whom I can rely."

The man came. He was a tall, sturdy young fellow, with a pair of fiery, dark eyes and a square, reticent mouth.

"Your name?" demanded Bonaparte.

"Jean Favard."

"I have a mission of danger for you, soldier."

"Good, my general."

"You will start instantly for St. Lucca. You will carry this dispatch to the commander there. Two thousand men are advancing upon him, but the tower must be held for twenty-four hours longer, at all hazards. The Austrians must be kept in check there till Roveredo is taken."

Jean Favard put the dispatch in his pocket.

"It is twenty miles to the pass," said Napoleon; "how soon can you reach it?"

"By sunset, my general."

The young grenadier set out on his mission. He carried a canteen of water and a loaf of black bread. As the sun set he entered the pass. Gloomy firs and pines waved along its sides, the Autumn wind howled and roared through the gorges. He approached the tower unchallenged. No sign or stir of life appeared anywhere about it. Favard went, like a cat, up the bare face of the rock and found the great door standing wide open in the lonesome twilight. He entered. One glance sufficed to show him that the place was deserted. The garrison had abandoned it an hour before, leaving behind their arms, their baggage, their ammunition.

"*Sacra!* the cowards!" hissed Favard, glaring about in a great rage.

He began gathering up the spoils they had left. There were three loopholes commanding the pass. An old field-piece originally captured from the enemy, lay overturned beside one rusty and worthless. As he approached this, he saw flung down beside it, a military blanket, some cartridge-boxes, and two or three muskets. Favard kicked the blanket with his foot in passing. From beneath it rolled out some long, snaky curls of flaxen hair.

"*Mon Dieu!*" said Favard "what is this?"

He stooped and saw under the blanket, curled up in the black shadow of the gun, a little child lying fast asleep—a pale and delicate child, eight or nine years of age, but looking much younger. She was dressed in a plain mourning frock, with a black ribbon about the throat. She was sleeping profoundly, her face half hidden in her flaxen hair, her long lashes making thick semicircles of blackness on her little pale cheeks. As Favard looked, he saw that she was weeping in her sleep.

Halloa, *petite*," said he. "Wake, little one!"

A shudder convulsed the child; her lashes lifted; two frightened eyes, of violet hue, looked up at Jean Favard. At sight of his uniform she smiled.

"*Petite*," said he, "where are the troops? Why were you left behind?"

She started up. She looked around the forsaken tower. Its silence and desolation seemed to appal her. She ran toward him, and tried to hide her head against the uniform she knew so well.

"Let us hear about it," said Favard, and he sat down on the gun and lifted her to his knee.

"My eyes were heavy with weeping for Mother Simon," sobbed the child. "I lay down by this gun, citizen. They were all here then, *le capitaine* and the soldiers—I said a little prayer—I fell asleep."

"*Parbleu!* And they forgot you. They were in a great haste, the cowards! *Ma foi*, we'll not cry for them, *petite*. What is your name?"

He pulled out his handkerchief as he asked this, and wiped the tears from her eyes.

"Christine, citizen," she answered, like a little princess.

"Tut! who brought you here to St. Lucca?"

"Mother Simon, citizen; she followed the camp. A week ago she died here. I wear this mourning frock for her. She was the quartermaster's wife. He is dead also; the wicked Austrians killed him.

"The quartermaster, then, was your father? Your name is Simon," said Favard.

She looked puzzled, but shook her head.

"No, citizen, he his not my father; my father is dead—my mother is dead. Mother Simon bade me never to ask for them; and my name, citizen, is not Simon, but Christine."

"Is this Mother Simon's portrait," said Favard, "which you wear about your neck, *petite?*"

"It is no portrait, citizen; it is a charm."

She drew the black ribbon from her bosom, and he saw attached thereto a coarse wooden cross of Maltese form. It seemed singularly heavy. The child kissed it, and dropped it again inside her mourning frock.

"I am always to wear this," she said; "I am never to part with this so long as I shall live; Mother Simon commanded it."

Up rose Favard, and closed and barricaded the strong door of the tower. Next he gathered together the arms and ammunition left by the troops in their flight. In all there were forty-five muskets. He loaded them one by one and set them in order against the wall. Jean Favard had actually determined to hold the tower alone against the Austrians.

"Come, *petite*," he then called to the child, "you have not yet supped."

He drew out his loaf of black bread and his canteen of water, and gave her a liberal share of each. He smiled as he watched her munch this frugal meal.

"But you eat nothing, citizen," she said, at last.

"I have no appetite," he answered, and put the remainder of the loaf carefully back in his haversack. He had never been so hungry in his life, but there were twenty-four hours before them in the tower, and he had but that loaf. The little one would need it all,

"Here is my supper," he said gaily, and drew out a black pipe, filled it, and began to smoke.

Darkness gathered in the defile, the wind roared and wailed in the fir-trees. The child fell asleep, with her flaxen head against his knee. He laid her down in a sheltered corner and spread his blanket over her, then went to a loophole of the tower and looked out. Hour after hour he stood there, listening and waiting. It was just before midnight when he heard far up the pass the measured tramp of approaching feet. The Austrians were just entering the defile.

Jean Favard seized a loaded musket and fired thrice into the darkness. It was a voice meant to warn the foe against a nearer approach. Favard heard a few short commands, and they turned and beat a hurried retreat back to the mouth of the pass.

For the remainder of the night dead silence reigned around the tower. Jean Favard watched. At sunrise, before the child in the corner was stirring under her blanket, an Austrian officer, with a white flag in his hand, appeared on the rock and summoned the garrison to surrender.

"Monsieur," said Jean Favard, through the loophole, "this garrison knows its duty. It will defend the pass to the last extremity."

The officer retired. Immediately a piece of artillery was brought into the defile. It opened fire at easy musket range on the tower. Favard answered with a deadly shower of bullets. At the end of twenty minutes the piece was withdrawn with the loss of seven men.

The Austrian commander then ordered an assault. It was a steep and narrow pass; his troops could traverse it only in double files. As they advanced for the third time towards the tower of St. Lucca, they were met by a withering fire. Twelve fell dead before the fatal rock: the remainder retreated in hot haste to the entrance of the defile. More assaults were made, and were repulsed in like manner. So the dreadful day passed. At sunset the Austrian commander had lost in killed and wounded fifty men. Again a flag of truce appeared on the rock, with a second summons to the garrison to surrender.

"The garrison will surrender at ten o'clock to-morrow," said Favard, "on condition that they be allowed to march out with their arms and return to the French lines unmolested."

To these terms the officer at last consented. At the appointed time the Austrian troops were drawn up in two lines along the pass to receive the garrison of St. Lucca. The massive door of the tower opened. From it advanced the stalwart figure of Jean Favard, leading by the hand a little girl in a mourning frock. On his other arm, and strapped to his back, were forty-five muskets, the exact number he had found in the abandoned tower. Grim and silent, and weighed down with his load, he passed with the child down the line of the enemy. Dumbfounded, they stared at him. A colonel dashed forward.

"Why do not the garrison march out?" he demanded, angrily.

"We are the garrison colonel," answered Jean Favard.

"What do you mean, fellow?" roared the Austrian.

"We are the garrison of St. Lucca—this child and I."

"Do you mean to tell me that you alone have held this tower for twenty-four hours against us?"

"I have had that honour, colonel."

"In the name of heaven, what induced you to attempt it?"

"Colonel, you were marching to join Davidovitch. I have held you here till my general could devour him. By this time it is done."

The Austrian looked thunderstruck. Then he lifted the hat from his reddening forehead.

"Soldier, you are a brave man. I salute you."

The officer drew out a note-book, and on one of its leaves pencilled a few words.

"Take this to your general," he said, giving it to Favard; "it will tell him what you have done. Your load of arms shall be sent after you into the French camp."

No man knew better than Bonaparte how to reward brave deeds. A few days after this affair he sent for the hero of St. Lucca, and placed in his hand a folded paper. Favard who could both read and write, opened it, and saw the commission of a captain.

"What have you done with the child?" said Bonaparte.

"I have adopted her, my general."

Bonaparte smiled.

"I perceive you have a heart. Well, adopt her, then. I have caused inquires to be made about her parentage. The troops of St. Lucca declared her to be the child of the Simon woman. Is she still in the camp?"

"No, my general, I have sent her to Paris. I have a foster-mother there."

"Very well. Adieu, Captain Favard; go about your duty."

He had her sent to Paris, to an old grey house in the Rue St. Honore—to an old grey woman who kept the house, and was called by her neighbours Dame Fidele. She was Jean Favard's foster-mother.

"As you have no name of your own," she said to Christine, "what am I to call you?"

"Favard," answered the child; "your son requests it."

"Ah, what a heart he has!" cried the old woman. "He adopts you; he sends you to me; he gives you his name! You should love him much."

"I do; I will," answered little Christine.

"Let me look at you," said Fidele, more gently. "You are very little and pale; before Favard returns you must grow stout and rosy. There is a garden to this house, where you shall run and play the whole day long. Fie! you have eyes exactly like the old countess's above stairs."

Christine was accordingly sent into the garden of the old house—an enchanting spot, with a fountain, a plot of dusty violets, and clots of peaches sucking the sun into their crimson and amber coats, as they hung nailed to the dank, mossy wall. The first day Christine ran about the place and watched the wasps plunging their striped bodies into the luscious apricots; the second day she grew lonely, and fell asleep in old Fidele's garden-chair; the third day a door in the wall opened abruptly, and a playfellow danced into the garden.

He was a great, bold, rosy boy, with staring brown eyes and an insolent mouth. Christine, who was hunting a dry white moth through Dame Fidele's gilly-flowers, stopped short and looked at him.

"My name is Gustave, mademoiselle," said he, making her a little bow, "and I am the son of Monsieur Victor, the notary. This adjoining garden is ours. I have seen you through a hole in the wall behind the apricots, and I have come to play with you."

He pulled her by main force out of the tangle of purple stalks, and for that day, and for many a day after, Dame Fidele's garden was riotous with the noise of these children. There was a bench under the apricot-trees, where the old woman used to sit and knit of sunny afternoons and watch the two with thoughtful eyes.

One day Christine and her playmate saw a second pair of eyes regarding them fixedly from a window of the old grey house. A woman there was leaning against the casement, looking down into the garden—an old, white-haired, eagle-eyed woman in point-lace and black satin, and with the look and air of an empress. She was watching the children with singularly mournful eyes.

They ran to the bench under the apricots. Fidele put down her knitting, and looked vaguely troubled as she answered them.

"It is the Countess de Liancourt," she said.

"An aristocrat," cried Gustave.

"Ay, she has just returned to Paris from Brussels. She is so poor that she is forced to lodge in a house like this. Her estates are all confiscated, and the Directory will not restore them to her. Ah, poor soul! she was a great court-lady once at Versailles."

"Poor soul!" echoed little Christine. "Does she live quite alone, Fidele?"

"Yes, *petite*; the rest of her race died on the guillotine."

The children went back to their play, and that very night, in mounting the dark stair, Christine met the old countess rustling down in her black satin train, the powder thick in her grey hair, and her high-heeled shoes clicking sharply at every step. She nearly stumbled over the child before seeing her.

"Pardon, citizeness; it is I," said Christine, moving aside.

The old countess started; a shriek broke from her lips. Dame Fidele heard it, and ran out on the landing.

"*Mon Dieu!*" screamed the countess, "who is this child, with the face of an aristocrat and the speech of a *sans culotte?*" She seized Christine by the shoulder and stared at her fixedly. "Speak! Who is she?" repeated the countess, wildly.

"She is a child of the camp," answered Fidele; "my foster-son has adopted her. Citizeness, you tremble—you are pale. Sit down a little, and I will bring you a sip of wine."

The countess waved her haughtily back.

"A child of the camp!" she repeated, then recoiled a step, and releasing Christine, went disdainfully off up the stair. It was years before she again deigned the child so much as a glance.

One day the victorious army of Italy returned to Paris. With it came Jean Favard. In the dead of the night Fidele heard him thundering at the *porte-cochère*, and ran in her nightcap to admit him.

"Ah!" she cried, as he embraced her, "how tall and handsome you are! How well those epaulets become you! You have a beard, too, and a scar upon you cheek. Come in, citizen *capitaine*."

A figure came out of the corner and approached him. It was in a white bedgown, with its hair tucked away under a cap, and a doll hanging sleepily from its arm.

"*Mon père!*" it said, and ran and cast two arms around the neck of the grim young captain.

"Kiss me," cried Favard.

She pressed her rosy mouth to the scar on his cheek. He returned the caress with transport; he called her his child; he put on a paternal air that made Fidele shrug her fat shoulders. When the child was safe in bed she came back to her foster-son with a grave face.

"You will marry and have children of your own," she said, "and then what is to become of her?"

"I shall never marry," he answered; "my life is pledged to France and to Christine."

"Bah! You are not old enough to be her father. Look at her! She has grown two inches since you sent her to me. She is so bright that I can teach her nothing. What is to be done?"

"I will tell you," said Favard; "if you cannot teach her, some one must be found who can. I will send her to-morrow to the great school at St. Germain.

"St. Germain!" repeated Fidele; "that is where the aristocrats go. If you do this for her you will do more—you will give her a dower, and marry her to the son of Monsieur Victor, the notary. *Mon Dieu!* what could be finer than that?"

"The son of Monsieur Victor?" returned Favard, scowling. "Who is he?"

"He is but a lad, citizen *capitaine*, but already he adores your little Christine. They play together in the garden, they are like two flowers on one stem. He will have a fortune of two hundred thousand francs."

Favard gnawed his long mustache.

"Tut! To-morrow, I say, she departs. She will remain at St. Germain four years."

So Christine's mourning frock and yellow hair disappeared from among the gilly-flowers, and were seen there no more. After some weeks the old countess asked Fidele what had become of the child.

"Monsieur *le capitaine* has sent her to St. Germain," sighed Fidele, "to be brought up like an aristocrat. He will not listen to my plan of betrothing her to Gustave, although together he and I could give her a handsome dower."

"He will not!" said the countess. "That is not strange. You can see at once why he opposes you."

"Not I," returned Fidele, "unless he would make a nun of the child."

"What!" shrieked the countess, "are you so stupid, dame? Do you not see that your *bourgeoise* captain, with the scar on his cheek, will not give his pretty nobody to Monsieur Victor's son, because he thinks to marry her himself?"

(*To be continued.*)

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

An enthusiastic antiquary, at a Parisian sale, recently paid no less than £900 for a pistol of the time of Henri II.

The *Amico del Popolo* of Palermo announces the approaching appearance of a comic journal to be called the *Rabagas*.

Mr. E. Walford, the author of "County Families," is writing a series of anecdotal and antiquarian papers, entitled "Tales of our Great Families."

M. de Fonvielle has been authorized by the French Academy to make a series of experiments on a new lightning conductor which he has devised.

The Duc d'Aumale is going to remove his collection of pictures from Twickenham to Chantilly. This collection consists of more than 3,500 paintings of different schools and periods.

Manufacturers of, and dealers in, poetry may be interested in hearing that there is to be a grand poetry match or contest at Bordeaux. The entrance for the same will be closed on the 10th June.

Three new halls have been opened in the Louvre for the exhibition of pictures by Rubens, Van Dyck, Synders, and of small paintings of the Dutch school, which have not found places in the Grande Galerie.

The German artists have threatened not to exhibit any of their works at Vienna if they are not treated on a footing of perfect equality with the French, who, it is said, have been unduly favoured as regards space and light.

The Lords of the Admiralty have, through the naval secretary, Captain Robert Hall, informed Dr. W. C. Bennett that the Admiralty has ordered a supply of his songs for sailors, with a view to their adoption for use in the naval training ships.

Assistant-Controller W. C. Nangle, of the Devonport Gun Wharf, has invented an "indurated tar," which, applied to iron, resists the influence of both moist and dry heat, and is therefore particularly adapted for coating and lining steam boilers.

M. Thiers has directed an architect to draw up a plan for the reconstruction of the Chateau of St. Cloud, with wings. An intention is attributed to the President of proposing the removal of the National Assembly to St. Cloud.

There is reason to believe that the long-lost portrait of Molière, painted by Sebastien Bourdon, has been discovered among the Ingres collection at the museum of Montauban, and that it was restored by the latter painter, who purchased it at a dealer's sale.

An interesting MS., written in Italian, by the late Emperor Napoleon III., when he was in Italy, an exile from France, has been published in last month's "Rivista Europea" by the editor, Professor Angelo de Gubernatis, in whose possession the MS. is.

In New York glass-lined iron pipes are being used to convey water. The friction is lessened, the pipes are always clean, and the water is kept pure. Between the glass and iron is a layer of plaster of Paris, which, being a non-conductor of heat, prevents the water from freezing in the winter.

Lord Lytton was fond of publishing works anonymously; but he usually avowed the authorship after a short time. It is said that the reason he so strictly concealed the fact that he wrote "The Coming Race" is that it contains a profession of his faith, a profession he always shrank from making openly. His ideal race believe, it may be recollected, in a Supreme Being, The All-Good, but hold no other dogmas, and use no religious rites.

A novel exhibition and festival will take place on the 1st of May next at the Palais de l'Industrie of Paris. The manager of the Théâtre de la Gaîté, M. Ballande, appeals to all dramatic celebrities of all countries for their support in the organization of a "Grand Molière Jubilee." The plays of Molière will be successively given with a different cast of actors for each play, and divers professors and men of letters will deliver lectures before the performances. At the same time the admirers of the great author will find ample repayment for their curiosity in a museum composed of the autographs, portraits, manuscripts, and rare editions of the works of Molière. M. Ballande has collected almost every object associated with Molière's name, including the wooden armchair of a barber at Dax, where he was wont to sit for hours observing the barber's customers.

Mr. Gladstone has been elected the first honorary member of the Society of Painters in Water-Colours. It will be remembered that the right hon. gentleman recently advised Her Majesty to confer on the President (now Sir John Gilbert) the honour of knighthood, as a public recognition of the peculiarly national branch of the fine arts which the society has cultivated from the period of its foundation in 1804. With a sense of the importance of the service thus rendered to water-colour painting, the Society passed a special resolution to confer upon a limited number of eminent personages the distinction of honorary membership, and offered to Mr. Gladstone the first fruits of the new regulation. Subsequently Sir Richard Wallace, M.P., Mr. Prescott Hewett, M. Madou, President of the Royal Belgian Society of Painters in Water-Colours, and Professor Ruskin were elected.

SNOW IN LONDON.

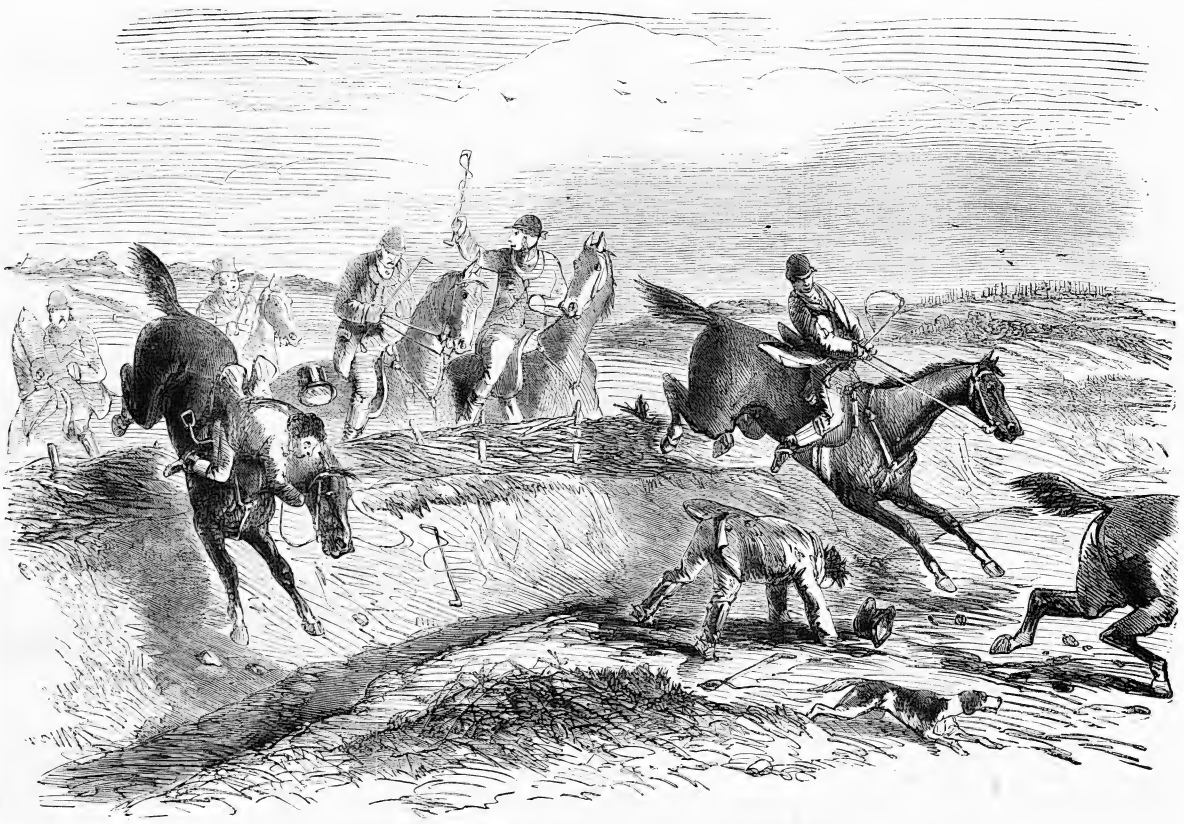
It is only when a heavy fall of snow occurs that those who dwell in London can form anything like a correct idea of how many hundred poor out-o'work fellows there are amongst us who are desperately driven for a means of earning an honest shilling. Frost alone does not enable us to find them out. There are thousands of outdoor workers—bricklayers, plasterers, navvies, &c.—who know full well that there *must* come a time in winter—perhaps but a few days, possibly many dreary weeks—when their efforts to earn bread for their children will be as effectually paralyzed as though the use of their limbs had been taken from them. They never knew when the dreaded time may come. But it comes at last. Perhaps the anxious father of half-a-dozen helpless youngsters is apprised of the sudden appearance of the dreaded enemy while it is yet dark. He wakes with a sensation that the bedclothing that he has hitherto found tolerably sufficient to keep him warm has, since he retired to rest, grown uncomfortably scanty; and there he lies, with his eyes towards the tell-tale window, on which his forebodings tell him but too truly he will, come daylight, find his sentence inscribed in characters that are unmistakable. But he makes no fuss about the calamity. It is no more than he might reasonably have expected, and there is nothing left for it but for him to stave off the wolf at the door as well as he is able until his spell of enforced illness is at an end.

But let a fall of snow come, a good heavy fall, that levels the roadway with the pavement, he is no longer inactive. It is not a nice job for a man who prides himself on his independence and respectability, and he certainly might object were there no option left for him but to engage in it in his immediate neighbourhood; but this is by no means necessary. He will take a shovel and a broom, and slip out before it is daylight, and make his way to one of those West-end squares where rich and liberal people live, and where, being first in the field, he may probably be able to earn half-a-crown and home again before dinner-time, and no one a bit the wiser. This is the comforting idea with which the out-of-work amateur snow-sweeper starts, but alas! his eyes are speedily opened to its delusive nature. Before he has been out a quarter of an hour, he has met at least a dozen bearers of brooms and shovels as shamefaced as himself; and before morning has well broke he sees and hears on every side almost as many applicants for sweeping doorways as there are doorways to sweep. Perhaps his venture brings him sixpence or a shilling. Perhaps, disgusted with the cold-hearted grudging of the many who will not have their snow "swep" at any price, he makes his way home—a miserable man, who has not earned twopence. It is his inexperience in the ways of snow-sweeping that has been his undoing. Had he been a practised hand, he would have known that there are scores and hundreds of parsimonious householders who will persist in allowing the last downfall to encumber the pavement pertaining to their premises until they are reminded by a guardian of the peace that, under the Police Act, they will incur a penalty of forty shillings unless they set shovels and brooms at work forthwith. It is this weakness of human nature that the regular snow-sweeper takes advantage of. The last-mentioned individual does not trouble himself to be up before daylight. He and his equally wide-awake friends wait until nine or ten o'clock, and then take their stand near the police-station and watch until the man who serves the "notices" starts off on his errand. They follow this important functionary, keeping at a respectful distance, but taking care to be not far off when the policeman knocks at a door. If they can only induce the good-natured officer to say, "Here's a man will do the job for you at once," it makes the business quite sure and twice as profitable, because of the semi-officialism with which it is invested, and which justifies a charge of an extra sixpence at the very least.

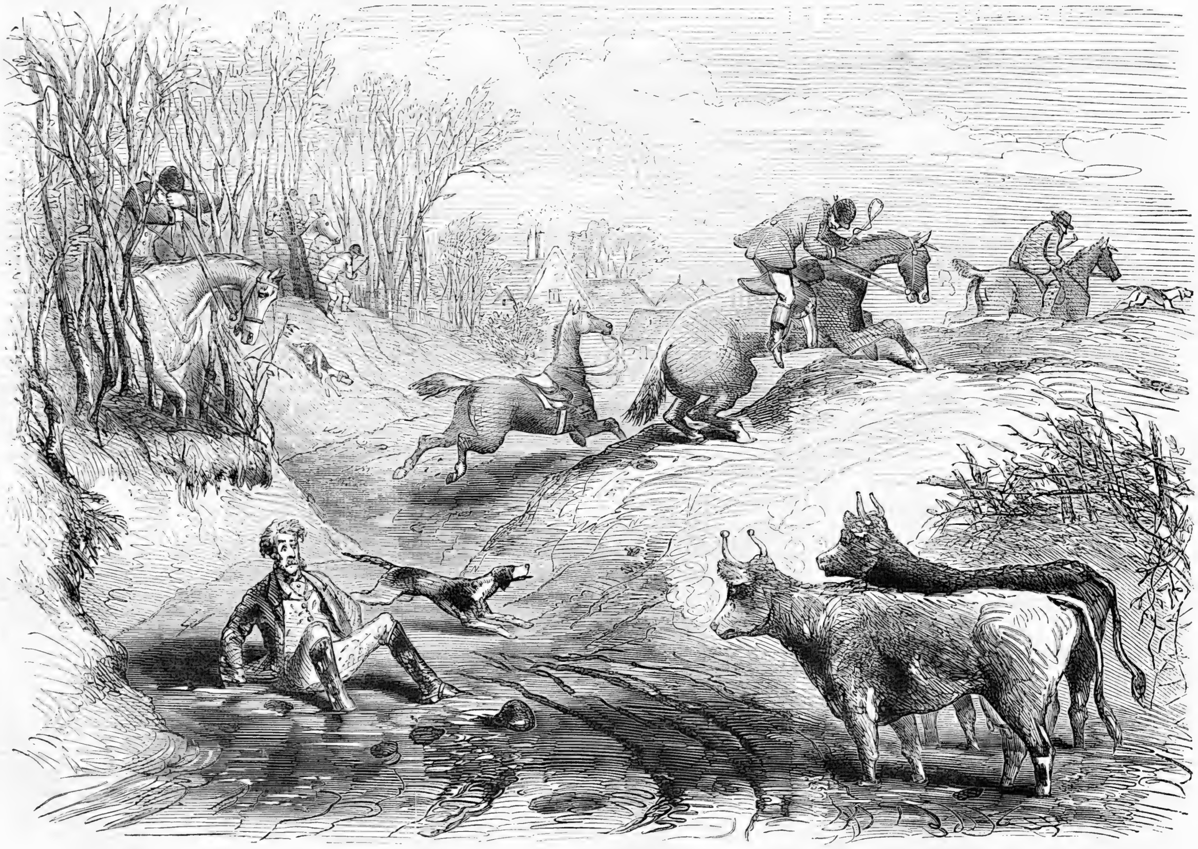
It would seem, however, that it is only the British householder who is to be overawed into complying with laws and regulations made in behalf of general decency and comfort; the Vestry authorities of the various parishes are superior to all such trammels and restrictions. It is only reasonable to assume that sanitary law, applying to our streets, includes roadways as well as footways; and, since it has been ordained, that during a season of snow every occupier of a house shall be his own scavenger, it is scarcely too much to expect that, when once the accumulation has been swept into the gutter, the road-cleansers appointed by the parish will take up the difficulty at that point, and deal with it in the ordinary manner. A snowstorm in London, however, seems to have much the same effect on the parochial authority's faculties as would a shower of frogs. He is an amazed and bewildered man, and knows not what to do. As a rule, he permits the foul mass to lie in the road until it is beaten and trampled into black mire, and is swept up as such when sweeping day comes round; or if he musters courage enough to have it shovelled into carts and have it drawn away, he does not know what to do with it. There are convenient spots set apart for the reception of the dust and mud that is swept from our highways, but none for the snow, which is almost as inevitable. The most brilliant idea that occurs to the official mind is to make a great heap of it in some square or in the middle of a public thoroughfare, if it be wide enough, and there let it remain until, in the course of a few days, or weeks, as may happen, it melts under the influence of the sun, and makes its way in black and noisome dribblets to the nearest gullyhole.

Now, there is no reason at all why such a disgraceful condition of things should be. The parochial authorities are bound to provide those who apply to them with outdoor relief, but at the same time they are empowered, by means of a "labour-test," to compel the able-bodied applicants to prove that they really are industrious fellows who labour under the misfortune of having no work to do, and not idle scoundrels who regard half a parish loaf as preferable to a whole one earned by honest industry. Now, why not put these men—the idle work-shirker as well as the worthy fellow—at snow-sweeping, when there is occasion? There are always shovels and brooms enough in the workhouse store-rooms, and, at this time of year, a sufficient number of applicants of the able-bodied sort to "man" those implements; and all that would be requisite would be to give them each an extra shilling in addition to the dry bread that at present their stone-breaking or oakum-picking entitles them to. Fifty men so employed in Holborn and Oxford-street could keep that important highway free from the unsightly mud that at present encumbers it, and every other London thoroughfare might be freed from the snow-plague that several times in every winter attacks it.—*Daily Telegraph.*

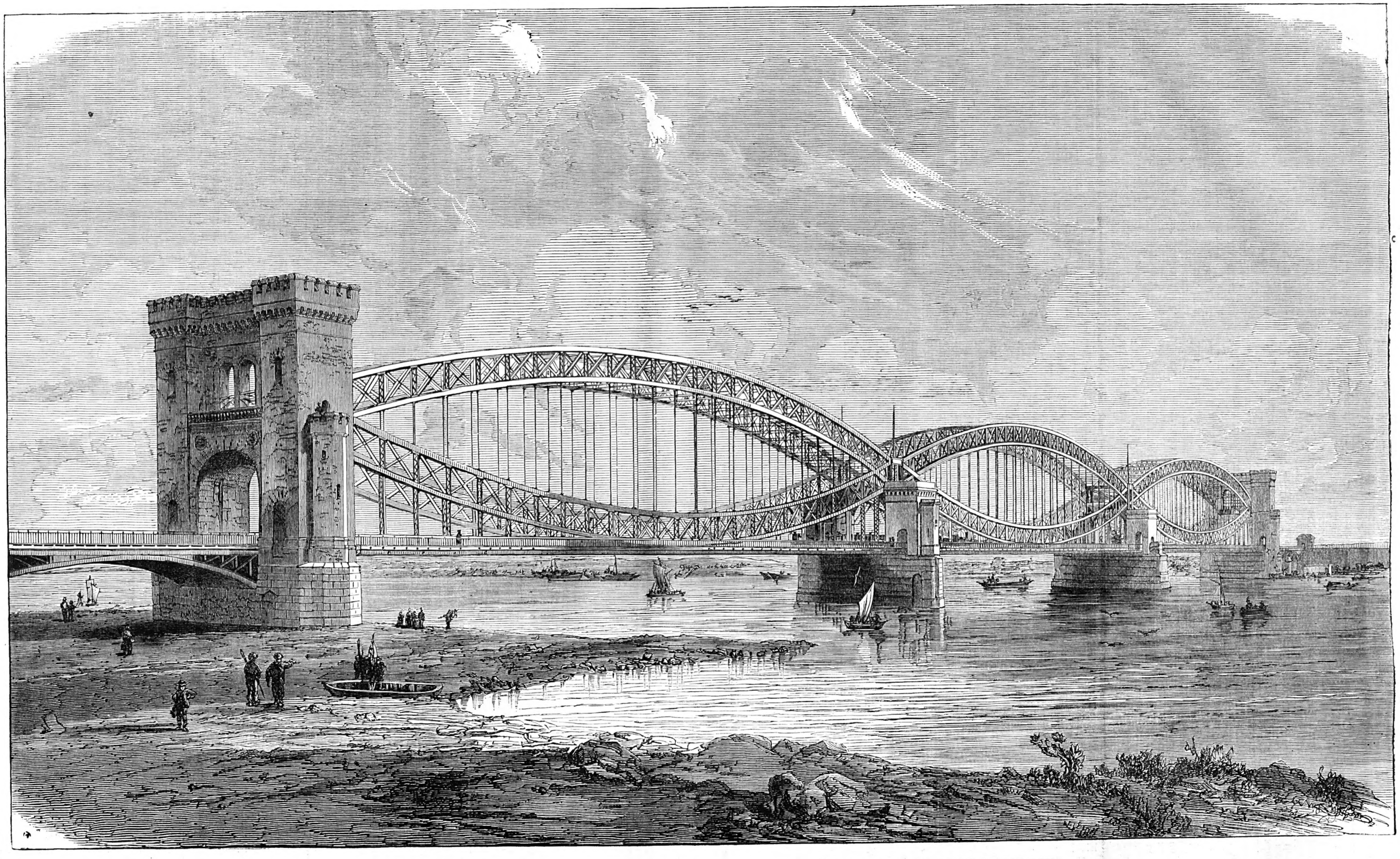
It is said that Russia will soon appear in the market as borrower. The sum required will be twenty-five millions.



HUNTING SKETCHES (Drawn by Phiz). No. 3.——"A Drop Scene."



HUNTING SKETCHES (Drawn by Phiz). No. 4.——A Soft Seat, but Dampish.



THE NEW RAILWAY BRIDGE ACROSS THE ELBE, CONNECTING THE CITY OF HAMBURG WITH HARBURGH.

Until the close of last year communication between the city of Hamburg and its neighbour on the opposite bank of the Elbe, Harburgh, was carried on by means of a steam ferry, the landing stages of which were most inconveniently situate on the very outskirts of the two places. This was in a great measure due to the King of Hanover, who refused to permit the erection of a bridge, on account of the facilities it would afford for the invasion of his territory. However, after the annexation of Hanover by Prussia, negotiations were opened between the city of Hamburg and its new neighbour, the result of which was the grant of a concession, in 1867, to the Cologne and Minden Railway Company, for the construction of a line. *via* Osnabruck and Bremen, to Hamburg. The work proceeded rapidly until the breaking out of the Franco-German war put a temporary stop to it. It has, however, since been completed, and the Elbe is now spanned by two bridges, one crossing the stream from Hamburg to the island of Wilhelmsburg, and the other continuing the line from there on to Harburgh.

The Hamburg bridge, which presents a combination of the suspension principle with the ordinary arch, has three spans 306 feet in width, and four measuring 68 feet. The latter, which lie to the landward end next either bank, are constructed of iron girders with supports of masonry. The central spans, however, as will be seen from our engraving, are constructed upon a more complicated principle, the elaborate iron curves there shown serving to support the straight bridge beneath. Besides a double line of rails, the bridge is fitted with paths for foot passengers.

The Harburgh bridge, which is built in a similar style, has one more span, and is about half as long again as that above.

AT THE THEATRES.

PRINCE OF WALES'S.

To a large section of the theatrical public an alteration in the programme of the Prince of Wales's Theatre is an event of great importance. When, therefore, Mr. Wilkie Collins' new play, "Man and Wife," was brought out on Saturday last, it was but natural that the theatre should be completely crammed with a fashionable audience. It is the first new piece that has been seen in Tottenham-street for nearly three years. For those who have honestly gone through the book it is hard to conceive a work that looks less dramatic. Here is a novel in which the author delineates character by an intricate number of infinitesimally small touches. To attain the same end by a few bold strokes is the task of the dramatist, who has fewer hours at his command than the novelist has days. In the play, "Man and Wife," Mr. Wilkie Collins, who has either dramatized his own novel, or without reference to the novel has on the same subject written a drama collateral thereto, does present the scene at the inn and the family council. But he omits the attempted murder, killing Geoffrey by a stroke of paralysis at Lady Lundie's house, when the debate has unfavourably ended. Hence, also, he leaves out Hester Dethridge, perhaps the most dramatic person in his book. We have not exactly the case of the tragedy of "Hamlet" with Hamlet perpetually behind the scenes, but certainly we have "Hamlet" without the Ghost. Having seen a subject so powerful in its effect thus worked into a narrative so comparatively feeble when treated in a dramatic form, we come to the conclusion either that it is essentially undramatic or that it has been dealt with in a manner that does not bring forward its dramatic side. The attempted murder would have been alien to the character of the Prince of Wales's Theatre and of its fastidious patrons. It is a house set apart for comedy, and that of the peculiar species invented by the late Mr. Robertson. In a melo-dramatic theatre, Mr. Collins might, perhaps, have wrought his subject into a play as effective as his "Woman in White;" but it seems to us that there is a gulf between "Man and Wife" and that Robertsonian drama, which he has vainly essayed to pass. One feels something like regret in finding fault with a work so carefully constructed as the play "Man and Wife," written, be it ever borne in mind, by one of our most thoughtful and ingenious novelists. Nevertheless, when the curtain descends we cannot help feeling that nearly everything which gave the book its especial value is absent from the drama; that we have witnessed, as it were, a self-extinguished power; that we have seen a clever piece of the ordinary sort, when something extraordinary was to have been expected. All the performers too, without exception, have a tendency to underact, whereby in many instances fine points were lost, and an effect of flabbiness was induced.

OLYMPIC.

While preparations are being made for the revival of Mr. Andrew Halliday's "Little Em'ly," which had such a successful career on these boards during the previous management, an attempt has been made to create a temporary interest by the production of Dr. Marston's new adaptation of "Pai de Tolomei," an awful nightmare adapted from the Marquis de Belloy's play of "La Malaria," which at one time owned the great Ristori for a heroine, and which in its turn was taken from an early Italian poem. The tragedy (once in four acts, then in three, and now happily reduced to one) is one of those terribly monotonous scenes of relentless cruelty and long-drawn suffering which require a star actress to galvanize them into being bearable; they are either like the shock of an electric eel or else they are a bore. The Countess Pia de Tolomei, it may be remembered, refusing to reveal the name of an early lover, submits to the influence of the poison administered by her jealous husband, rather than accept the antidote which is to be the price of the disclosure; and, from the situation thus created, the little piece derives its present name. As the much-enduring Countess, Miss Ada Cavendish, was intense and careful, and studied to the turning of a finger; but it was all study, and so she awoke no emotion in her audience. Dr. Westland Marston's blank verse is sufficiently fluent and forcible, but the drama is in itself dull and heavy, though possessing the merit of brevity.

OPERA COMIQUE.

The Grand Provost of Paris had a ward, and with a view of securing for her an advantageous position in life betrothed her to a distinguished nobleman, entitled Le Baron de Trente-six Chandelles—no, we beg pardon—Trente-sept Tourelles, whose family tree had been growing for so long a period that all the Heralds' Colleges of France and Navarre had failed to delve down to its roots. Having mentioned France, it will be matter of no surprise when we announce to our readers that this betrothal had taken place without either of the contracting parties having caught a glimpse of each other. But la Belle Adrienne had seen some one else—no less a personage than Enguerrand de Moranges, a noble of the Court—and these two had sworn eternal fidelity unknown to her guardian; so that when Enguerrand, having run another noble through the body, had to fly for his life, he had no difficulty in persuading his sweetheart to elope with him. This elopement was effected by the aid of a gang of strolling players, in whose ranks the pair enlisted; and one of whom, named Graine-de-Beauté, undertook the task of throwing the city watch off the scent—a feat easily accomplished, thanks to the typical stupidity of their sergeant, Trompe-la-Balle; so that when the baron arrived for his bride the bird had flown, and there was nothing left for him to do but to bewail his misfortunes, assisted, according to operatic precedent, by a melodious but seemingly unmoved chorus. The troop the lovers had joined was engaged to play at the very château in Lorraine in which Adrienne had passed her youth, under the care of the Grand Goblet Bearer of Burgundy, and at which her wedding was to have taken place. Indeed, the guests had already assembled there to witness it, and for their delectation the dramatic performance of the "Bravo of Brindisi" was to take place. Meanwhile the Baron, searching for his lost love, also joined the actors, in hopes that their wandering life would further his quest, and was induced by Graine-de Beauté to change garments. No sooner was this done than Trompe-la-Balle, arriving, arrested him as the man who had deceived him, and whom he suspected to be the real homicide. By this time the Grand Provost, having to face the guests without bride or bridegroom, was in despair. In this despair he applied to Croquignole, the manager, to supply the deficiency, and the latter consented on condition of a free pardon being granted to the duellist. The Provost agreed; the Baron, whom he failed to recognize, was released, and attired for the ceremony; an actress was brought forward as the bride he had never seen: and then came wild confusion and mirth-provoking imbroglio, resulting in the pardon of Enguerrand, his union with Adrienne, and that of the Baron with the actress Belle-au-Soir, who had managed to secure his affections during their short acquaintance. Let this story go off with fair dialogue, music not quite up to the usual Offenbachian standard, beautiful scenery, and some of the best costumes ever put upon the stage, and it becomes "The Bohemians; a Romaunt of Lorraine," produced here on Monday.

ST. JAMES'S.

"Robert Rabagas," which is described as a "satire," and is certainly a biting one, was successfully produced here on Tuesday. We defer detailed criticism to our next.

MORE MUMMERY.

TO THE EDITOR OF "PASSING EVENTS."

Sir,—I suppose it will scarcely be news to you if I inform you that there is a Lord Chamberlain. It is true that for the greater portion of the year the public remain oblivious of that functionary's existence, and the world at large is suffered to roll on without being brought into contact with him. When I say brought into contact I speak figuratively of course, for like some other celebrated character in history, whose name I forget, he is best known by his acts. But there are times and seasons when he—figuratively be it remembered—emerges from his retirement, and the present is one of them. I do not refer to the recent interference with the production of "Tricoche and Cacolet," and the prohibition of the words "Jack Sheppard" upon the stage, but to the annual Ash Wednesday edict. On that night the theatres of the metropolis were closed, as is customary, "by order of the Lord Chamberlain."

But stay—they were not all closed. A performance by music-hall celebrities took place at the Gaiety, and one by the Multinominal Minstrels at the Standard. If dramatic entertainments which are supposed to be elevating are prohibited, why are slangy songs and nigger buffooneries to be tolerated? I confess I cannot see the reason.

But this is not all. The music-hall singers and the troupe who carried the entertainment which it has been their boast never to inflict upon the public anywhere outside the St. James's Hall into the far East must have had some reasons for their migrations? So they had, those irrepressible Middlesex magistrates. These, fired by the virtuous example of the L. C., decided that a clause should be inserted in all licenses granted by them prohibiting any entertainment on Ash Wednesday. But, strange to relate, their Surrey brethren were not similarly inspired, and consequently London south of the Thames enjoyed its music-halls as usual, whilst London to the north, less fortunate, had to fall back on the two entertainments mentioned above, and those provided by a couple of circuses, which apparently are independent of all parties.

Now, could anything be more ridiculous than this confusion? And yet there seems no hope of alleviating it, whilst as long as it lasts the title of this letter is fully justified.

Your Eccentric Correspondent.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL GOSSIP.

Mr. and Mrs. Bandmann will continue at the Princess's for a month longer.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Liston are about to take a benefit at Drury-lane.

Miss Minnie Hauck has just been engaged for two years at the new Opéra Comique of Vienna.

Mr. J. K. Emmet leaves the Adelphi next week for the provinces.

It is reported that a new opera house is to be built for Mr. Mapleson.

The revival of "Marion Delorme is likely to prove a great money success at the Théâtre Français, as the receipts are over 7000f. every night the piece is played.

The works of the new Porte St. Martin Theatre are being pushed forward with great activity. The house will be inaugurated with Victor Hugo's play of "Le Roi's Amuse."

The "Cataract of the Ganges," that is to be produced at Drury-lane on March 3rd, has only managed to flow for three weeks at the New York Opera House.

Messrs George D'Arcy and C. H. Ross, the so-called authors of "Lantern Light," are engaged in writing a new four-act romantic drama for Miss Marriott.

Beethoven's great-nephew has embraced the profession of a journalist. The *Signale* says that the family is in a state of destitution.

A dramatic critic says that he overheard a gentleman observe to another in a stall at the theatre last night, "Look at that painted old woman: old and parched as she is, they say that she can still turn men's heads." "Yes, but the other way," was the reply.

An Italian operatic company, with Arditi as conductor, will commence a series of performances at Vienna on the 11th of March. The list of artists comprises the names of Mdmes. Adelina Patti soprano, and Marchiso, contralto; MM. Nicolini and Marini, tenors; Graziani, baritone; and Vidal, bass.

It is stated that the director of the Russian Opera House, by Imperial command, has paid a good round sum to Strakosch, the "impresario," to release Mdme. Patti from her American engagement. The Lady was recalled "fifty" times after her last performance at St. Petersburg.

Lafont, the veteran comedian, has visited Monaco, and has been received by the prince of that principality, who seemed delighted to make the acquaintance of the accomplished actor, who, it will be remembered, impersonated the Prince of Monaco in Sardou's "Rabagas."

There is a story about the Emperor Napoleon current just now to the effect that shortly before his death the Empress told him she had engaged a music master for the Prince Imperial, and that thereupon the Emperor begged that the master might be dismissed, adding, "One troubadour king is enough for Europe." The allusion was, of course, to the King of Bavaria, who has made himself so foolish over Wagner.

The demonstration which was made at the Corso Theatre of Bologna against Dumas the younger has been imitated at the Nuovo of Florence. The piece "Principessa Giorgio" having been announced, the house was crowded, but when the curtain rose the storm of hissing and hooting was so tremendous that the manager had to change the performance to "Una Comedia in Famiglia."

It is with very great pleasure we learn that Mr. F. B. Chatterton and the proprietors of Drury Lane Theatre have "come to terms," and that he will retain possession for the ensuing five years. By his energy, liberality, and ability Mr. Chatterton has secured for "Old Drury" an almost unprecedented amount of popularity and support, and our own wish, and the wish of all who know him, is that in the future, as in the past, prosperity may continue to attend his efforts.

An assembly extraordinary of the French Dramatic Authors' Society is to take place to consider the demands of M. Offenbach, who wishes to play his own compositions at the Gaieté, when he takes possession of that theatre in April. It must be remembered that in France managers are not allowed to write their own plays, although, through the liberal intercession of Alexandre Dumas the younger, President of the Society, several exceptions have lately been made to this rule, and in obedience to general wish it is very likely that the arbitrary decree will be abolished altogether.

The rehearsals of "Cartouche" at the Châtelet are progressing rapidly, but the part of the robber hero, which was to have been played by the manager, Deshayes, has been given to an actor on the establishment, Laray. The reason assigned for this change is that Deshayes is "fat and scant of breath," and unable to climb up the rope, by the aid of which Cartouche escapes from prison in a scene of this play. It having been suggested that a rope ladder could be substituted without materially damaging the effect of the situation, the characteristic answer was given that the "hand-over-hand" business was traditional, and could on no account be altered.

At the Sheffield Police-court three youths were charged with riotous and disorderly conduct. It appeared in evidence that a popular actress was staying at the Corner Hotel in Paradise-square, and that a number of lads were in the habit of following her and serenading her in a boisterous manner. A crowd, numbering over a hundred persons, assembled and sang "Tinkle-doodle-dum," an air which the said actress has made popular in the town. The prisoners, who appear to have taken a prominent part in this unseemly demonstration, were ordered to find sureties in £5 to keep the peace for six months, or, in default, to be imprisoned for that period.

A circumstance lately took place in the theatre at Guayaquil which gives, or at least is intended to give, a high idea of the extreme sensitiveness of the authorities of the Republic of Ecuador. A French lyrical company were playing the celebrated comic opera "La Grande Duchesse." During the second act, when the Grand Duchess shows herself very familiar with Fritz, caressing his hair by passing her fingers through it, and other quite as innocent attentions, the chief authority of the city, who was present, immediately rose up in his seat, and ordered the piece to go on no further, as being insulting to the morality and dignity of the Guayaquil public, and stopped accordingly it was.

A curious discipline is enforced at revival meetings, where the rev. preachers notify to the speakers in the beginning, "If any man attempts to make a long speech he will be sung down on the spot."

A little while ago, a gentleman, with a very Irish name, who is a poet, was returning home late at night, carrying under his arm his dress boots wrapped in paper, when he was suddenly arrested by a policeman, who collared him in a very vigorous manner. The poet mildly remonstrated, and asked the meaning of such very pressing attentions. The constable made a sneering reply, hinting that his captive knew very well why he was wanted, and another constable appeared on the scene to assist in conveying the luckless poet to durance vile. After some expostulation, he succeeded in mitigating the suspicions of his stern janitors so far that they agreed to unhand him on condition that he walked between them, one in front and one behind, and made no effort to escape. Arrived at the police-station, the inspector at once exclaimed, "Why, this is not the gentleman; you have made a mistake," and tendered an apology to the poet. "That's all very well," was his reply, "but I should like to know something more about this rather singular affair. One does not get taken up every day of one's life." It was then explained that a lunatic had got loose from an asylum, and that his friends had told the police to look after him, and they would know him by reason of a peculiarity of his. He had a cat-like aversion to wet feet, and always carried a spare pair of boots under his arm in order to put on directly those which he wore began to get damp.

It is unhappily so common at present to hear of large fortunes being lost in London that it is refreshing to find a belief still prevails in provincial circles that the dirty streets of this metropolis are paved with gold ready to be picked up and pocketed by any one who is not too indolent to take the trouble. On Saturday last Henry Matthews, aged fourteen, described as "a miserable-looking lad," was brought before the magistrate at Southwark Police-court charged with wandering about the streets in a state of destitution and want. It appeared from the evidence of an officer of the London School Board that about ten o'clock on the previous night he saw the prisoner wandering about the Borough in a deplorable condition, and, finding that he had no home nor means of paying for a lodging or procuring food, the officer considerately took him to a police-station, where it was ascertained that he was a confectioner's apprentice, who had absconded from his master's employment in Oxfordshire and come to London for the purpose of seeking a fortune. Master Matthews, on being questioned by the magistrate, admitted the fact; he had been told, he said, that many young men went to London penniless and made rapid fortunes; he therefore determined to try his luck, but having failed to achieve wealth, although he had been in London three weeks, he would be glad to get back. He was accordingly given up to his father, and has probably returned to Oxfordshire a sadder and wiser boy than when he left it.

TO CONSUMPTIVES.—A Grateful Father is desirous of sending by post, free of charge to all who wish it, a copy of the prescription by which his daughter was restored to perfect health from confirmed consumption, after having been given up by her physicians and despaired of by her father, a well-known physician, now retired from practice. Sent to any person free. Address, O. P. BROWN, Secretary, 2, King-street, Covent-garden, London.

IN COURT,

THE PROSECUTION OF A BANKER.

At the Mansion House, on Friday morning, Senhor Josef Xavier di Lizarde, forty-four, the principal in the firm of Lizarde and Co., merchants and agents for the Mexican Government, lately carrying on business in Cannon-street, and whose recent failure to the amount of nearly three-quarters of a million sterling has created so much excitement in commercial circles, was brought before the Lord Mayor for further examination upon the charge of obtaining £12,000 by false and fraudulent pretences from Messrs. Currie, Glyn, and Co., the brokers, of Lombard-street.

Several witnesses were called, and Mr. Straight addressed the Lord Mayor, and said, with regard to the charge relating to the £12,000, he had a complete answer to it; but that answer could only be given through the examination of books and matters of a complicated character. He therefore asked that the case might stand adjourned until Wednesday, and he then pledged himself to produce the most complete evidence to show that the defendant had not the most remote idea of defrauding Messrs. Currie; and he asked that, during the interval, the defendant might be admitted to bail.

Mr. Currie said he thought it right to say that since the defendant had been under remand his friends had been in communication with him, and they had offered to pay the whole amount of the debt due by the defendant to the bank. Upon public grounds he had declined to accede to this proposal, but he felt it his duty to say that he had no vindictive feeling against the defendant. It was then arranged, after some discussion, that the defendant should be remanded until to-day, and the Lord Mayor said he would admit the defendant to bail, but he should require him to enter into his own recognizances in £5,000, with two sureties in the sum of £6,000, for his appearance on the day named.

THE LAW OF COPYRIGHT.

In the Court of Queen's Bench, on Friday, was tried a case Toole *v.* Younge.

This was an action by the proprietor of a drama founded on a novel, against the manager of a provincial theatre for an alleged infringement of the exclusive right of presenting the plaintiff's drama. Mr. Hollingshead had written a tale in *Good Words* for 1863, entitled, "Not Above his Business," which the author dramatized, and then sold the drama to Mr. Toole. That gentleman, however, never represented or published it; and last year the defendant represented a drama called "Glory," which Mr. Toole complained of as an infringement on his right.

On the case being opened,

The Lord Chief Justice said he could not see on what principle the action could be rested. It was admitted law that any person might dramatize a novel.

Mr. Hollingshead was called to prove the authorship of the novel and drama.

The question then arose how the identity of the drama and the tale was to be tested.

The Lord Chief Justice said he feared they must both be read, and he should propose that his brother Ballantine should read them. (Laughter).

Mr. Serjeant Ballantine said he should suggest that he should read the tale and Mr. Toole the drama. (Laughter.) On second thoughts, he suggested that Mr. Hollingshead should read the tale.

However, it was arranged that the Hon. Mr. Campbell should read the tale, which he accordingly did, and it proved rather a tedious process, both to reader and listeners. Then the dramatic version of the tale written by Mr. Hollingshead was read, and the defendant's version was read, which, it appeared, was written by a Mr. Grattan, who had never seen the plaintiff's drama. Upon this,

The Lord Chief Justice observed that the former, the dramatic version by Mr. Hollingshead, was a mere reproduction of the tale in a dramatic form, whereas the other, that of the defendant, was entirely different; and, though founded on the original tale, had many new incidents, and much additional dialogue. He was, therefore, prepared to direct a nonsuit on the ground that the defendant's drama had been drawn from the published tale, and was no infringement of any right possessed by the plaintiff, reserving the question for the Court.

Counsel acquiesced in this course, and the plaintiff was then nonsuited, much laughter being caused by Serjeant Ballantine telling Mr. Toole to "stand up to be nonsuited."

MR. EDWIN JAMES AND THE BAR.

The application of Mr. Edwin James to be re-admitted to the Bar was on Thursday week heard before a full bench of judges, among them being Lord Chief Justice Bovill, Lord Chief Baron Kelly, Mr. Justice Blackburn, Mr. Justice Keating, Mr. Baron Pigott, Mr. Justice Brett, Mr. Justice Quain, and Mr. Justice Grove. The inquiry being considered of an honorary character, the members of the press and the public were excluded from the chamber; none but the parties and their solicitors were admitted. There was a large gathering of Mr. James's friends, who were much disappointed at their exclusion. When the Court had assembled it was seen that Chief Justice Bovill presided, but on Mr. James raising an objection that his lordship had been leading counsel against him in one of the cases in respect of which the appeal arose, the Chief Justice intimated his willingness to retire, and Chief Baron Kelly succeeded him as president of the tribunal. Mr. James had not concluded his address when the proceedings were adjourned. Mr. Edwin James, however, concluded his address on Friday. Mr. Batt, Q.C., then addressed the Judges on the part of the benchers of the Inner Temple, and Mr. E. James was occupied on Saturday with his reply.

After half-an-hour's deliberation their lordships decided that he had failed in his appeal, and that he could not therefore be readmitted to the bar—thereby upholding the benchers' decision.

THE "FIGARO" LIBEL CASE.

Mr. Willis, on behalf of Mr Odger, applied, on Thursday week, for a stay of execution, upon the ground that the verdict was against the weight of evidence. Mr. Justice Brett inquired whether any complaint was made of the direction to the jury.—Mr. Willis said that there was no such complaint; the question was entirely one of evidence.—Mr. Justice Brett: The question was one entirely for the jury, and though he might perhaps himself have found a slightly different verdict, he should not feel justified in interfering with the decision of the jury.—Application refused.

SUIT AGAINST PROFESSOR HUXLEY.

Judgment was given by Vice-Chancellor Malins, on Thursday week, in the case of Broad *v.* Huxley.—It appeared that the learned professor, who resides at St. John's-wood, wished to drain his garden, one end of which goes on the house of the plaintiff. In carrying out the drainage, it was found necessary to have a well at the end of the garden, but, on this being represented to be a nuisance to his neighbour, the professor had it removed some yards further back. Still the plaintiff complained of his house being damp, and attributed the unusual degree of dampness to the professor's well.—For the defence, it was alleged that the plaintiff's house was in a normal state of dampness, and was only worse in consequence of the weather.—The Vice-Chancellor, without calling on counsel for Professor Huxley, held that the plaintiff's case had wholly failed, and dismissed his bill with costs.—The plaintiff's house was said to be worth £700, and this litigation would probably cost him £500.

THEATRICAL ACTION FOR SLANDER.

The case of "Morton *v.* Head" came before the Court of Common Pleas last week. This was an action to recover damages for slander, both written and oral. In opening the case counsel stated that the plaintiff was formerly proprietor of the Canterbury and Oxford Music Halls; and the defendant was what was called a sporting "bookmaker." This latter gentleman was a man of wealth, and some time ago he furnished money for the plaintiff to open the Philharmonic Theatre. An agreement was entered into to the effect that Mr. Head was not to become a partner, though he was to have a share in the profits; that Mr. Morton was to have the sole management, and was to give his whole time to the business. Mr. Morton's experience was that theatres did not pay in the summer months, and that it was a great benefit to lessen the burden of the expenditure at that period of the year by getting the actors and actresses travelling engagements in the country. He pursued this plan at the Philharmonic, and he suggested promenade concerts in lieu of the usual performances. Mr. Head objected to the tour which was proposed, and declared he would not sanction it; and Mr. Morton assigned all his interest in it to a Mr. King. Mr. Head also objected to the conduct of Miss Soldene, who, having been working very hard, gave up the night engagement under the doctor's advice, though she played elsewhere in one or two morning performances. The defendant communicated his grievances to various persons, and on those occasions uttered slanders upon the plaintiff, which the witnesses would detail. At a dinner Mr. Head made a speech, in the course of which he accused Mr. Morton of betraying confidence, seeking to deprive him of any share of the profits accruing from the provincial tour, &c. The speech was afterwards printed in a pamphlet, and circulated far and wide; and, if uncontradicted, might have such a serious effect upon Mr. Morton's position, that he felt he had no option but to bring the whole matter before a jury.

The publication of the libel having been proved, the plaintiff was called, and stated that he, under an agreement, acted as manager of the Philharmonic Theatre for the defendant, with power to engage the company and make the whole of the arrangements. The plaintiff said he had formerly been proprietor of the Canterbury and Oxford Halls, and that afterwards he had engaged in other similar enterprises which had not been so successful. That, from the first, he had engaged a Miss Soldene, whose acting had ultimately contributed much to the success of the theatre; that, in the summer of 1871, the Philharmonic Company went on their own account into the provinces. At this time the theatre had not, with "Chilperic" and the "Grand Duchess," achieved the success which they afterwards achieved with "Genevieve de Brabant." In December, 1871, the Philharmonic company made, with the knowledge of Mr. Head, provincial engagements for the summer. That, in the opinion of the witness, it was prejudical to a theatre to keep it open all the summer; and that he had faithfully performed his duty as far as he was able to the defendant.

On cross-examination the plaintiff justified having permitted Miss Soldene to absent herself from the Philharmonic on the ground of her illness, and excuse her performance at the Gaiety Theatre during the time that she was too ill to act at the Philharmonic, on the ground that those were morning performances, and stated that he considered the provincial tour of the company a benefit to the theatre. He admitted that although when an injunction was applied for by the Court of Chancery to restrain him from taking the company to the provinces, he assigned the contract with the provincial managers to a Mr. King, yet he had been with the company at several large provincial towns.

Miss Soldene was called, and proved her illness at the time of her absence from the Philharmonic Theatre.—Several theatrical managers were called to prove that Mr. Morton had exercised a wise discretion in sending the company into the provinces in the summer.

Mr. Serjeant Ballantine summed up the plaintiff's case; and Mr. M'Intyre, without calling witnesses, addressed the jury for the defendant.—Mr. Justice Brett, in summing up, said the question of libel or no libel was for them; that, first, they must consider the sense in which the words had been spoken or written; secondly, whether words written in the sense in which they should decide the words to have been written were such as, if they were true, would cause in the minds of right-thinking people a sense of contempt or ridicule for the person described.

The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff—damages £200.

A CANDID PRISONER.

The Rev. Enoch Reddall, who was recently fined 5s. by the Essex magistrates for being drunk, was again brought before the magistrates on Monday. On the former occasion the rev. gentleman brought a counter-charge of assault against Eldred, the policeman who took him into custody, but the charge was dismissed. It appears that the same night Mr. Reddall, after going home and arming himself with two knives, walked four miles in search of Eldred, and knocked him down with a heavily-knobbed stick. Being overpowered by Eldred and assistants, the knives were taken away, when Mr. Reddall said one was intended for Eldred, the other for Waller, the parish constable. He added, that as he had drawn Eldred's blood, and so had had his revenge, he was satisfied. The bench expressed their intention to commit Mr. Reddall to the assizes, upon which he said he should plead "Not guilty, as he was insane." The rev. gentleman has, it is stated, been five years in a lunatic asylum.

THE DURHAM POISONINGS.

On Friday, the 21st ult., at Bishop Auckland, Mary Ann Cotton was brought up to undergo examination on further charges of poisoning.

In the presence of the magistrate the prisoner was allowed to retain her seat, and she seemed, while quietly rocking her baby on her knee, of a very much better stamp than the generality of female prisoners. Her clean and tidy look, and her evident hopefulness as to the result of the trial, did not fail to make a favourable impression amongst the spectators in court.

Mr. Trotter, in opening the case, spoke of the prisoner's antecedents, which must be familiar to our readers, and the first witnesses called were two pitmen who had worked with Nattress, and who deposed to his general good health.

Dr. Thomas Scattergood, lecturer on toxicology at Leeds School of Medicine, repeated at length his evidence as regarded the poisonings of the different persons; and concluded by stating that from the appearances which he observed, and from the result of the analysis, he had no doubt that deceased (Nattress) died from poisoning by arsenic. He gave this opinion with very great confidence.

Elijah Atkinson, shoemaker, West Auckland, was sent for to Mrs. Cotton's, on the Thursday before Nattress's death. He saw both Mrs. Cotton and Nattress in the room upstairs. He asked Nattress if it was his desire for Mrs. Cotton to have the whole of his effects. He said that was his desire. He had no friends that ever looked at him. Witness sat down and made a will to that effect, leaving everything to Mrs. Cotton. He had £10 sick money and his clothes. The £10 was to be payable at his death.

Mr. Richardson, surgeon, who attended the deceased during his illness, stated that, to the best of his belief, none of the medicines he prescribed contained arsenic.

Jane Hedley, St. Helen's, Auckland, wife of George Hedley, corroborated the evidence of Atkinson, the shoemaker.

After other evidence had been given, the prisoner was committed for trial on the capital charge at the ensuing assizes at Durham.

The next charges gone into were those for the murder of Frederick Cotton, her stepson, on the 13th March; and for the murder of Robert Robson Cotton, her own son, on the 28th of the same month. The only evidence taken, however, was that of Jane Hedley, and it went to show that both were subject to vomiting and purging, and that neither were ever attended by any other person than the prisoner.

The inquiry was then adjourned.

The adjourned proceedings were brought to a termination on Tuesday, when Mary Ann Cotton was charged with having murdered her stepson, named Frederick Cotton, aged ten, and Robert Robson Cotton, her own child, aged fourteen months.

The evidence of the neighbours went again to show that she would allow no one save herself to minister to the necessities of the children; and one witness stated that, although she made some beef-tea for Frederick Cotton after he had told her that he wanted something, still Mrs. Cotton would not allow her (witness) to partake of it.

Dr. Scattergood, of the Leeds School of Medicine, stated that he had no doubt whatever that the children had died from arsenical poisoning.

A witness, named Thomas Detchon, assistant to Mr. Owen, chemist, Newcastle, said, in January, 1869, a woman, who called herself Mary Ann Booth, came, along with another woman to the shop, and purchased threepennyworth of soft soap and arsenic. That woman was the prisoner, and he pointed her out amongst a dozen women at Durham Gaol.

The Bench: But had you seen her photograph, or did you remember her features so well?—Witness: I saw her *carte* in the early part of November, and I pointed her out in the latter part of the same month.

A witness named Jane Hedley, formerly a neighbour of the prisoner, said that she had employed Mrs. Cotton to assist her in cleaning her house, and that on one occasion Mrs. Cotton had recommended a composition of arsenic and soap, in order to kill the vermin. She (witness) went to the prisoner's dwelling for it, and found it there.

Dr. Kilburn, who attended Robert Robson Cotton, stated that he saw him early in the evening, and apparently in excellent health, prattling on his mother's knee, and that he was astonished at nine o'clock to hear that the child was dead, for there was nothing the matter with him to cause death.

At the conclusion of the examination, prisoner was committed on a charge of wilful murder in each case. This makes four separate charges of wilful murder now preferred against her. In answer to the usual question as to whether she had anything to say, she replied in the negative.

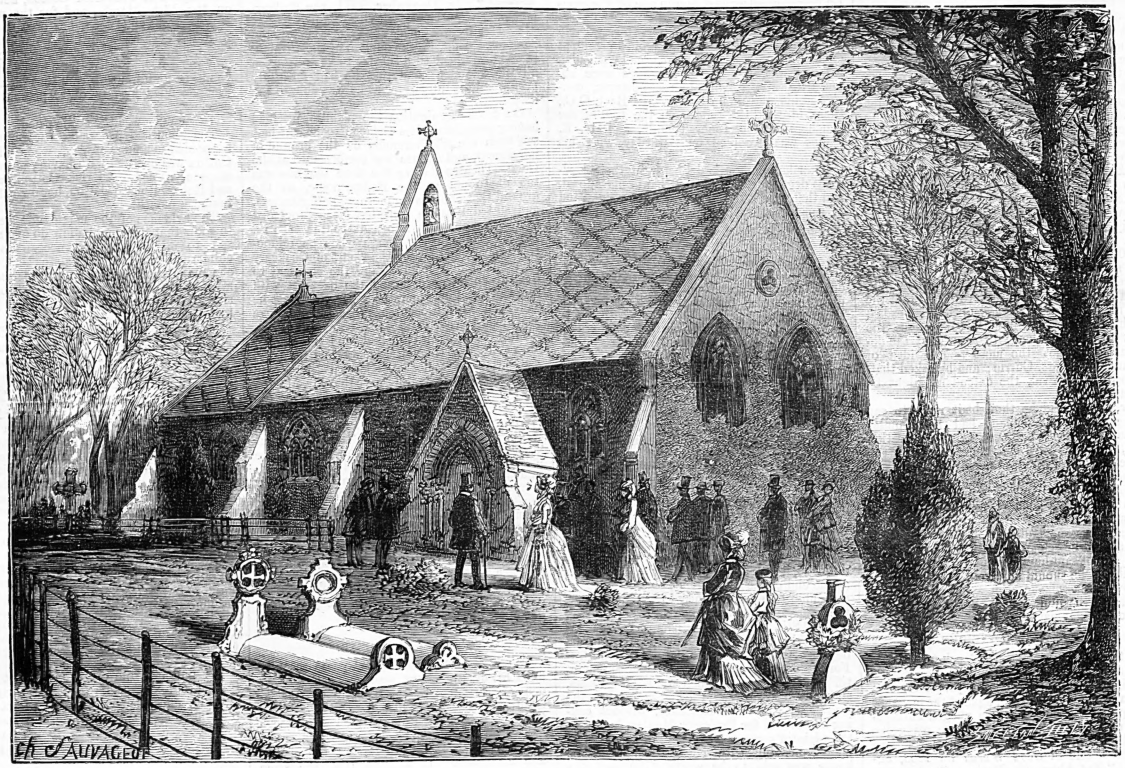
In the course of the hearing of the case, prisoner complained that the person to whom she had entrusted her defence was not fulfilling his duty. The Bench assured her that she would be provided with an able counsel when her case came on at the assizes. During the proceedings prisoner has not shown much anxiety, and has only put one question, namely, as to time.

RAILWAY ACCOMMODATION.

The District Railway Company has been endeavouring to convince its third-class passengers, through the medium of the Westminster Police-court, that when there is no room for them in their own boxes they have no right to travel either first or second class. Their duty, as laid down by the company's solicitor, is either to wait for the next train or to ask leave to travel in another carriage, or to pay the excess. Mr. Woolrych suggested that the company had also a duty in the matter, which was to find more carriages. He had seen seven or eight people thrust into a carriage by some officials and left all standing. It was a very bad state of things, and nothing could excuse it. He had been himself in a first-class carriage when five extra persons were thrust in, very dirty, and certainly unsavoury. He actually shunned some stations where this confusion and overcrowding took place. Of course the summons was dismissed

CULPABLE HOMICIDE.

Edward Evans, captain of the brig *Albert*, of Liverpool, has been tried in the High Court of Justiciary, at Edinburgh, for the wilful murder of Antonio Francisco de Costa, one of the crew, on the high seas, on the 24th December last, while the vessel was on the voyage from Liverpool to Bahia. The indictment set forth that the deceased had been dragged from below in his shirt and made to work at the pumps, while suffering from sickness. On his falling upon the deck he was struck with various weapons, dragged about, kicked, stamped upon, and left for an hour, exposed to the weather, lashed to the wheel, without clothing; in consequence of which maltreatment he soon after died, as might have been expected. The vessel was forced by stress of weather to run for the Clyde, where, along with the first mate, who was tried on a similar charge and dismissed, the prisoner was arrested. He stoutly protested his innocence; but the jury found him guilty of culpable homicide, adding a strong recommendation to mercy. Sentence of fifteen months' imprisonment was pronounced. Some English sentences are astonishing, but this is absolutely astounding.



THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO CHISLEHURST.——View of St. Mary's Chapel.

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